

Carothers Community Garden

Rules and Guidelines

The Carothers Community Garden (CCG) is operated by the City of Seabrook and volunteers of CCG. Our use of this land depends on our ability to keep the garden and neighborhood relationships well maintained. CCG requires all gardeners to read and abide by the following rules and guidelines to ensure the growth of the gardening community as well as the continuation of plot ownership.

Agreement and Fee. Before you start to tend your plot you must have signed this agreement and paid your fee. 4 x 20 plot \$ 45 4 x 10 plot \$ 25 (circle one and initial)

1. The garden is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. The combination for the lock will be given to members and will be changed annually or as needed.
2. Gardeners must provide their own tools. Tool donations are graciously accepted and may be stored in the area so provided.
3. Make sure to close the gate when you enter and exit.
4. Notify a CCG Garden Manager if illegal activity, such as theft, occurs.
5. Each member and guest must fill out a CCG Liability Release Waiver.
6. Friends and family members are permitted into the garden, but are under your supervision and must adhere to the rules and regulations.
7. Children 12 and under must be supervised at all times while in the garden.
8. Smoking, chewing tobacco, and open flames are not allowed in the garden. Tobacco smoke is dangerous to all who breathe it, and tobacco is a carrier of the mosaic virus which can kill some plants.
9. Plots have been marked for the reason of individual plot recognition. Please do not move/remove the markers.
10. Carothers Community Gardens adheres to the Alcohol and drug-free environment laws as adopted by the City of Seabrook. Alcohol and other illegal substances are not allowed in the garden.
11. Weeds and other plants should be placed in the compost. Herbicides are not allowed in the garden; use of such weed killers will result in forfeiture of your plot. There will be no refund.

As the CCG is a community garden, members are expected to partake in occasional maintenance in order to ensure that the garden is a beautiful, well-kept area for everyone. Such maintenance items are:

1. Keeping equipment and site in good condition (general maintenance).
2. Managing and cleaning the compost.
3. Weeding and cleaning the outer edges of the garden.
4. Help with any chores that are posted.

Six times a year there are Clean Up days. Members must attend at least three of the six days to participate in community cleaning and maintenance of the garden.

Gardening workshops will be held periodically throughout the year. However, it is the gardener's responsibility to research proper gardening techniques. The essence of community gardening is trial and

error and sharing of knowledge. Numerous gardening books are available in stores and libraries, and the Galveston and Harris County Extension offices offer a wealth of information. Garden meetings, classes and events happen throughout the year, we encourage you to participate.

Plots may be arranged to the tender's whim, but certain regulations do apply:

1. Beds of the plot may not rise above 18 inches from the path.
2. No permanent structures are permitted (concrete, bricks and mortar).
3. Structures may not cross into, or shade another plot. i.e. trellis, cages, poles, shade structures
4. All plant materials must be supplied by the tender.
5. Plot tenders are responsible for the maintenance and harvesting of their plot.
6. Plot tenders may take home any produce they harvest for their consumption. Trading between plot tenders is allowed and encouraged. If a plot is not harvested while the fruit is ripe, the plot owner will relinquish all rights to the produce and it will be taken to a food bank.
7. Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden related maintenance is the responsibility of the tender.
8. If you are going to be away for an extended amount of time, notify a CCG Garden Manager. Plot tenders can arrange for other plot tenders to watch over their plot while they are gone.
9. Garbage and recycle bins will be provided. In keeping with the sustainable code CCG promotes, we ask that you recycle all materials that you can. Compost those that are compost acceptable, and dispose of the rest in the garbage.
10. Pets are not allowed in the garden. This does not apply to service animals.
11. A water line is provided to all plots for hand watering. When done, spigots must be turned off and hoses coiled WITHIN your plot. These spigots can also be set on a timer. CCG Garden Managers are happy to help you design a drip system should you so choose.
12. Notify a CCG Garden Manager immediately if you find any leaks in the water system.
13. The bulletin board is for garden business only, soliciting is not allowed.
14. There is a suggestion box for feedback or questions. CCG also has an email if you prefer electronic communication.

The rules and regulations are in place so that the Carothers Community Garden can grow, provide a healthy community atmosphere, and function as a pleasant place to garden. When a violation occurs, a CCG Garden Manager will send the plot tender a warning email. The warning will have the details of the violation and the deadline set for the plot tender to fix the problem.

If the problem is not fixed by the deadline included in the warning, a CCG Garden Manager will issue a second warning by email. This warning will detail the violation, the deadline for fixing the problem, as well as the consequence of ignoring the warning, which is plot forfeiture.

Compliance with the rules and regulations of CCG garden, detailed here, will ensure that the community garden grows and succeeds. Violations of the rules are taken very seriously and any such violations will be dealt with by the CCG Garden Managers.

If garden maintenance rules are ignored, you will be required to forfeit the plot. As outlined below, these are the conditions under which plot forfeit will occur.

- Bringing illegal substances into the plot.
- Plot is not maintained for four weeks.
- Transferring or subletting a plot without prior CCG Manager approval.
- Warning violations are ignored, and violations repeated.
- Acting in a threatening or abusive manner to other gardeners.

I understand that the City of Seabrook and the CCG group are not responsible for my actions. I RELINQUISH THE CITY OF SEABROOK AND THE CCG GROUP FROM ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS AS I AM THE SOLE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MY PLOT.

Primary Plot Holder and Responsible Party Date

Additional Family Members or Guests

Carothers Garden Manager Date