

Aspen Community Garden

Rules and Regulations

1. **GETTING PLOT:** Anyone interested in a garden plot must email aspencommunitygarden@gmail.com to get on a waiting list. You can check on-line at the City Website for your initials indicating placement on waiting list.
2. **QUALIFYING FOR PLOT:**
 - a. Must be a resident of the Roaring Fork Valley at least 9 months a year.
 - b. Start with a smaller ABC plot for at least one year before you qualify for a larger # plot. We do encourage people to partner for the large plots as they require much more time and effort to manage.
 - c. Must turn in the commitment letter and payment by March 31st to secure plot annually. All Partners for plots must sign the form (if multiple families share plot).
 - d. Must notify Coordinator if you choose to terminate your plot “ownership”
3. **MAINTENANCE & FORFEITURE:** Plots must be obviously worked and weeded by **June 1st** and then regularly maintained during the growing season or risk forfeiture. Plot maintenance is defined as regular attention to and removal of weeds, grasses and other invasive plants, maintenance of the path in front of plot as well as regular harvesting.
 - a. Monitors will check plots for compliance.
 - b. If out of compliance, written notice will be sent to plot owner(s) and given 10 days to comply or risk forfeiture of plot.
 - c. If family or medical emergency occurs and you cannot maintain your plot for a period of time, please email Coordinator and volunteers will be arranged to help keep plot in compliance.
4. **WEEDS:** You are responsible for maintaining your weeds in and around your plot. You are responsible as a plot owner to ensure plot is free of noxious weeds as defined by Pitkin County and The City of Aspen. The Community Garden will post information at the garden to help you identify these specific weeds, including, but not limited to thistles, bindweed, scentless chamomile and mullein. Please make effort to keep common weeds (e.g. dandelions, grass, purslane, mustard) from spreading to your neighbors’ plots or going to seed. If you are not sure whether something is a weed, please ask another gardener.
5. **INVASIVE PLANTS:** In addition to controlling weeds, please contain invasive herbs and plants, such as mint, chives, strawberries, oriental poppies and others, so they do not encroach to your neighbors’ plots.
6. **DOGS:** Unless a certified Service Dog, dogs are always prohibited in the garden. You may tie your dog up outside the fence in the shade near the shed.
7. **CARS:** Parking at the garden gate is for handicap access only. 10-minute loading and unloading is permissible, but must be moved to the parking spaces near the dumpsters immediately after. Additional parking can be found across the field off of Castle Creek Road.

Best is to walk or ride your bike to the garden when able.

8. TRASH/COMPOST: Trash and compost bins will be provided from May through October each year to dispose of your garden waste. Please do not bring home waste to dispose in garden bins.
9. NO STRUCTURES OR INTERNAL FENCES: If you want to do a cold frame, please keep them low to the ground (3 ft. max). Shade structures should be at the back of your garden and should not cause shade to your neighbor. No internal fences may be erected.
10. SHED: Keep the lock on the shed doors even when it's unlocked. The wind will often gust and could blow the doors off. Please keep the shed tidy, return tools to shed clean and in good condition.
11. TOOLS: Take care of the tools. We have purchased several new tools in the last few years. If you bend one—fix it, get it repaired or replace it. If you take it out, put it back. Clean dirt off the tools before replacing in the shed. There are a few mechanized tools such as weed whackers; learn how to use them before you put them to work. replace any broken tools with new tools- receipts can be sent to coordinator and will be reimbursed.
12. PROHIBITED MATERIALS: We are an organic growing community; non-organic pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers such as, but not limited to, Roundup and Miracle Grow are prohibited. Other prohibited materials include:), treated wood materials, carpet, trees, cinder block
13. WATER: The irrigation system is fragile and temperamental. Water coordinators will manage the automatic watering system, increasing and decreasing water times based on weather, temps, and season. If your overhead sprinkler is not working properly, please email garden coordinator. There is a timer as you enter the garden to turn on the hand watering system- please be gentle and only turn on to line. Please do not leave water running in your plot when you are not there.
14. FOOD AND FLOWERS: Please do not harvest from another's plot without permission.
15. CAMPING: The community garden is for gardening. It is also a lovely place to watch the sunset. However, it is not a place to camp even for one night. Please choose another place to spend the night under the stars.
16. SOLITUDE: Some folks choose the community garden because of the social aspect and others love the solitude. Please be sensitive to others needs.
17. VOLUNTEERING: A list of ways you can help out will be sent out annually. Everyone is expected to give back to the garden to help keep it running. Garden Coordinator, water coordinators, monitors and many others volunteer countless hours every year. Please find a way to help as well.
18. ANNUAL MEETING: The community garden will meet annually in the summer season as a group to check in and make any necessary changes to organization .