

Garden Regulations:

It is important all gardeners read, clearly understand, and comply with the following garden regulations.

Administration:

1.1 Garden dates: OPEN-April/PLANT by DATE-Jun 18/CLOSE-Oct 31

1.2 In addition to Gardener's maintaining their plot, it is expected that all members volunteer in at least one role per year.

1.3 Gardeners are to check event and communication postings on the communication board, or on the Sunny Mount Community Garden Facebook page. Any information posted or written on the community boards must be polite and respectful, related to vacation help requests, gardening, harvesting, food preservation, produce donation, produce swapping, or recipes.

1.4 Gardeners are expected to acknowledge and reply to messages regarding their plot or general issues which may arise (e.g. outbreaks of disease, neglect).

1.6 Gardeners cannot transfer plots to other people. At the end of the growing season, Gardeners will be asked to confirm their interest in taking part in the garden for the following year.

1.7 If the Gardener plans to discontinue use of the Garden plot, notify the Community Garden Coordinator so the plot can be reassigned.

2. Planting & Plot Maintenance:

2.1 Planting of illegal plants and noxious weeds is prohibited. Visit www.omafra.gov.on.ca for more information.

2.2 Invasive plants (e.g. mint, Jerusalem artichoke, etc.) are not permitted. Plant materials that are on Ontario's Invasive Species list are prohibited. Visit www.EDDmaps.org for more information.

2.3 Invasive species (e.g. Jumping warms, etc) are not permitted. Please check if you are bringing plants and soil into the garden, that they are Invasive species-free.

2.4 Sale of produce from plants is prohibited. Produce must be for personal use and consumption. Donation of produce from Gardeners is voluntary.

2.5 Each gardener is responsible for the proper maintenance of their garden plot throughout the duration of the growing season, including normal watering, weeding, harvesting, and general care of their plot (although Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to water their Garden plots).

2.6 Each Gardener is responsible for providing his/her own tools and equipment unless there are any common use tools that are supplied in the garden shed.

2.7 Garden plots cannot be expanded beyond their measurement or into paths or other plots.

2.8 Installation of any fencing, plant supports, walking boards, tarps, frost blankets or other materials in the Garden plot must be temporary and removed at the end of the garden season, and should not block sunlight from a neighbouring plot.

2.9 Laneways and paths must be kept clear of obstacles. While bicycles, trailers, baby strollers and wagons may be brought inside the Garden plot enclosure, they should not block laneways or paths.

2.10 Gardeners must not apply anything to, or pick anything from, another gardener's plot without that gardener's express approval. Theft of items will result in expulsion from the Garden plot enclosure.

2.11 it is expected that all gardeners keep the pathways around their gardens weed-free.

2.12 On or before the last day of the growing season, all plants, produce, and personal property of the Gardener must be removed from the Garden plot and the Garden plot enclosure, and the Garden plot must be restored to a condition satisfactory to the Society. If such items have not been removed after the growing season, then they will be deemed to have been abandoned and such items will be disposed of at the discretion of the Society and there will be no liability for such disposal. Failure to do so will forfeit your deposit.

2.13 Gardeners who wish to plant winter crops must have completed the following steps on or before October 31st of the current year: Garden Chairperson approve the request and confirm the plot number for the following season, complete and turn in the lease application, and payment for the following growing season. The balance of the plot must be in clean condition.

3. Water Usage:

3.1 Gardeners must ensure that the water tap is shut off at the end of every visit and ensure the water supply is used with respect to avoid needless waste.

3.2 Gardeners must refrain from leaving open containers that may collect stagnant water.

4. Garbage/Compost/Recycling:

4.1 Gardeners must pick up and dispose of litter/recycling in the garbage/recycling bins provided outside the Garden plot enclosure. If no bins are available, then each Gardener is responsible for disposing of their garbage/recycling.

4.2 Gardeners may add their plant material to the compost bins provided WITH THE EXCEPTION of weeds, diseased items, invasive materials-these must be disposed of in the garbage bins.

5. Security & Safety:

5.1 Gardening activity must take place during daylight hours.

5.2 Ensure children under 18 years of age are supervised by an adult at all times while in the garden.

5.3 Ensure pets are kept on a leash at all times, in the vicinity of the owner's plot and must not disturb other plots/plot owners while in the garden.

5.4 Each Gardener is responsible for the security and safe-keeping of his/her own tools and equipment. Gardeners should label their property and tidy up tools prior to leaving.

5.5 No lock combinations or key should be given to another person that is not a member of the Sunny Mount Community Garden. Each Gardener shall close and lock the gates and tool shed each time they vacate the garden plot enclosure.

5.6 Gardeners shall be courteous to and considerate of other gardeners. Use of abusive or profane language is prohibited. Smoking, alcohol, and loud music are prohibited.

5.7 Gardeners must report any vandalism, damage, or needed repair of the community garden infrastructure and amenities (e.g. fencing, plot frames, compost, water hose, hose reel, lockbox, shed, etc.) to the Community Garden Coordinator. Gardeners must immediately notify the Community Garden Coordinator by phone/text or email of any issues or unusual activities.

6. Outbreaks:

6.1 Watch for disease and alert the Coordinator immediately of any suspected disease.

6.2 When disease management steps are communicated the Gardener must address the situation within the time indicated by the specific type of outbreak. All gardeners will be given ample time and support in dealing with outbreaks. Assistance will be made available as needed.

6.3 If a gardener refuses to address the situation or is unable to be reached to confirm actions/timeline, it will be assumed that the gardener has abandoned his/her plot and the Society will designate a person to address the situation and then will reallocate the plot to another gardeners

6.4 Any diseased plants/seed/invasive weeds are to be placed in a garbage bag, TIED-with all plant material contained within the bag-and put into the trash bins to prevent contamination of compost or other plots.

7. Sunny Mount Garden Coordinator Roll on behalf of the MDHS:

7.1 Assign garden allotments

7.2 Ensure fees are paid for use of each plot

7.3 Ensure garden plots are maintained and/or left in good condition and contacts gardeners where further work is required.

7.4 If a garden plot appears unplanted by June 15th, is messy and unattended without the Community Garden Coordinator receiving any notice from the Gardener of an acceptable reason, then the garden plot will be considered abandoned and it will be reassigned to the next person on the waiting list. The Gardener will have no claim for damages for such reassignment.

7.5 Assign or reassign empty/abandoned/not planted/not maintained plots from names on the waiting list in chronological order. In cases where the plots are considered abandoned the Gardener will have no claim for damages or loss.

7.6 Dispose of any abandoned items, where required, with no liability to the Society for disposal of such items.

7.7 Contact gardeners to confirm their interest in taking part in the garden for the following year.

8. Dispute Resolution:

8.1 If a Gardener feels that any of these Regulations have been violated, then he/she must provide a written complaint to the Community Garden Coordinator.

8.2 If a Gardener violates any of these Regulations then the Gardener will be contacted by the Community Garden Coordinator and notified of the violation along with the remedy and resolution. If the violation has not been remedied to the satisfaction of the Community Garden Coordinator, then their Permit may be terminated without refund of fees.

8.3 Any disagreements or disputes relating to these Regulations will be referred to the Board of Directors of the MDHS board where needed. The decision of the Board is final.