

2019 Community Garden Rules

The Sioux Falls Community Garden program was designed for people like you—renters without access to land, or homeowners with too-small or too-shady yards. A Community Garden Application form can be picked up at the Sioux Falls Health Department, 521 N. Main Avenue, SDSU Extension Office, 2001 E. 8thth St. or submitted at www.livewellsiouxfalls.org under the “Eat Well” page starting **January 2 until February 28, 2019.**

Garden Details:

- **Garden Agreement.** If you are selected to be a community gardener and you accept, you have committed to responding to emails from the Master Gardener Team Leader and Coordinator and maintaining your plot for the ENTIRE growing season. You must plant by **May 31** and clean out your plot by **October 21**. **An email address is required. It can be a willing friend or relative if you do not have one. You will forfeit your plot if you fail to maintain your plot or to follow these rules. Retain a copy of these rules for your information.**
- **Deadline.** 2019 plot registration applications may be submitted starting **January 2, 2019**. Applications must be received by **February 28, 2019**. Garden placement is on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to people who successfully gardened in the Sioux Falls Community Garden program last year. **Returning gardeners must submit an application each year and will not be reminded.**
- **Fees.** The garden season fee pays for water bills, plowing/tilling expenses, and future garden investments. The season fee for all garden sites is **\$20 except for the raised beds at Falls Park where they are \$10 because of the smaller size.** **Returning gardeners in good standing (if you are not in good standing, you have been notified) are assured the same plot(s) and should send their application with the fee by the February 28 deadline so we know you want to return. Make checks out to: “Minnehaha Master Gardeners”.** Applications with checks should be sent to **SDSU Extension Master Gardeners, 2001 E. 8th Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57103.** New gardener payment must be paid by May 1. **No reimbursements will be given after May 1. Gardeners are limited to two plots if available.** Scholarships are available upon written request with reason identified.
- **Notification.** Gardeners, whose applications have been approved, will receive notification via email by **March 29, 2019**. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of their status by **April 19, 2019**.
- **Weed Control.** This is YOUR garden so you are responsible for grass and weed control in your plot and area around your plot. We are moving toward an organic garden; commercial herbicides and pesticides are **NOT** allowed. If in doubt, please call or email the Master Gardener Team Leader to discuss.
- **Tilling.** This project is done by volunteers, not City employees. Plots will be tilled and staked as the spring weather and time permits. The Master Gardener Team Leader will contact you when the garden is available for planting. You can also drive by to see if plots are tilled and staked. Do not plant until you have confirmed it is appropriate to do so with the Master Gardener Team Leader.
- **Watering.** Conservation is required, city watering rules must be followed AND garden water stays at the garden (this water is NOT for your personal use).
- **Soil Condition.** You are encouraged to make soil improvements to your plot using organic materials such as untreated lawn clippings and compost. **Do not put grass clippings, etc. on other plots.**
- **Not Allowed.** Perennial plants, trees, **CARPET** and **ORANGE** (black or green is ok) **PLASTIC FENCING** are not allowed in the community gardens.
- **Trash Removal.** Anything you bring into the garden (fencing, labels, milk jugs, etc.), you are expected to take out. The gardens do not have access to dumpsters. When you weed, take the weeds home to your trash can. If you use landscape fabric, milk jugs, labels, etc., secure them well to prevent them from flying away.
- **Flowers.** Flowers encourage pollination—your garden plot **MUST** include some annual, blooming flowers.
- **Neighborliness.** The garden is a community. Be considerate. If you can help your neighbor, please do. If you have a question, ask your Master Gardener Team Leader.
- The Community Garden Coordinator can be reached by email at siouxfalls.center@sdstate.edu or by phone at 605-782-3290.

The Sioux Falls Community Garden is a cooperative effort involving the Minnehaha Master Gardeners, SDSU Extension Service, City of Sioux Falls, private business/churches and a dedicated group of volunteers, including more than 200 individual gardeners.

South Dakota State University, South Dakota counties, and USDA cooperating. South Dakota State University adheres to AA/EEO guidelines in offering educational programs and services.