



## 2024 Sioux Falls Community Garden Agreement

The Sioux Falls Community Gardens are a cooperative effort involving volunteer SDSU Extension Master Gardeners, the city of Sioux Falls, private business/churches, and over 300 individual gardeners in eight different gardens across Sioux Falls.

If you are selected to be a community gardener and you accept, **you commit to responding to emails/phone calls from Master Gardener contacts and maintaining your plot for the growing season. Email addresses and phone numbers are required.** This person must be a willing friend or relative who will communicate garden concerns if you do not have your own email or phone. **If you fail to follow this agreement you will be evicted from your plot whether during the growing season or at the end of the season.** Please keep a copy of this agreement for your reference.

### Garden Agreement

- **Weed Control.** **Failure to remove your weeds after THREE notices without contacting your team leader will result in eviction from the garden!** You are responsible for grass and weed control in your plot(s), paths and fence area around your plot. Herbicides are not allowed.
- **Pests and Disease Issues:** If you have a pest or disease issue, contact your team leader to identify possible interventions as most pesticide products are not allowed.
- **Garden Preparation.** This project is hosted by SDSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers. Plots will be tilled and staked as the spring weather and time permits. **Do not plant until you are notified that you can plant.** Leave the plot stakes in place until the end of the season. You must plant **something** by **May 31.** **No refunds after May 1.**
- **Watering.** Conservation is required and water is to be used for gardening only.
- **Soil Condition.** You are encouraged to make soil improvements to your plot using organic materials such as untreated grass clippings and compost. **Do not put grass clippings, etc. on others' plots.**
- **Cleaning your garden and trash removal.** The gardens do not have access to dumpsters. **Do not use fields, park trees, etc. to dump your garden materials!** When you weed, take the weeds home to your trash can. If you use landscape fabric, milk jugs, stakes, cages, etc., secure them well to prevent them from flying away. **If you plant items such as potatoes, tomatoes or squash, the vines must be removed. Corn or sunflowers roots must be removed at the end of the season.** The plot must be cleared of all debris by **October 15.**
- **Flowers.** Flowers encourage pollination—we recommend you include some annual, blooming flowers.
- **Safety and Neighborliness.** Gardens are on public property. Be aware of your surroundings. Tall plants may restrict your line of vision and can be a safety issue. Control sharp wires from fencing and vining plants in the pathways. The garden is a community. If you can help or share with your neighbor, please do, but ask first. Please be considerate of others. For example, tall plants such as corn or sunflowers may provide too much shade to a neighbor's garden. If you have a question, ask your Master Gardener Team Leader. Report suspicious activity to your team leader.
- **Children under age 16 are encouraged in the garden but must have direct adult supervision.**
- **Items Not Allowed: Carpet, orange plastic fencing, invasive perennial plants (mint, horseradish, etc.) and trees are not allowed in the community gardens.**