

GUIDELINES FOR BLYTHEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GARDENERS

1. **Organic gardening** practices are required. Garden pests and plant diseases can spread quickly in a community garden. Treat only your own beds. You may notify the Garden Coordinator with concerns about pests and disease in other beds. Garden Coordinator contact information:

Name: Teresa Goodman **Contact:** 8033194601

2. A fee of \$ per bed, per year is required at time of rental. The term of use is from (Gardeners may only reserve 2 beds.)

3. Current gardeners may renew their bed(s) annually, with a signed agreement and payment of the required fee.

4. In order to maintain compliance with these guidelines, it is recommended that you visit and tend your garden bed a minimum of twice weekly. Frequent attention helps to minimize weed and pest problems. Additionally, you are solely responsible for watering your garden.

5. The Garden Coordinator, at their sole discretion, reserves the right to demand removal of certain dying or diseased plants to minimize future contamination of soils and lessen spread to other garden beds.

6. Plants and **structures** including plant supports and **decorations** must not obstruct pathways, grow onto fencing or grow into other beds without prior permission of the Garden Coordinator. If the Garden Coordinator determines there is obstruction, you will be asked to remove them immediately.

7. Plants and trellises should be kept at heights that do not block sun from other gardener's beds.

8. Do not plant mint or other **invasive perennials**, which are difficult to eradicate for the next gardener.

9. Beds may be cultivated year-round. You are responsible for eliminating weeds year-round. If you choose not to garden in winter, it is recommended that you cover the soil to deter weeds. Contact the Garden Coordinator if you need information on winter gardening, cover crops, mulching or soil covers.

10. Gardening supplies may not be left in the pathways due to mowing and tripping hazards. Please help maintain a pleasant space by ensuring your beds, pathways surrounding your beds and the communal areas (including water stations, benches and compost area) are kept tidy.

11. The Garden Coordinator will inspect all garden beds regularly. If your garden bed is excessively weedy or untended, has an excess of rotten produce or is in any other way in need of attention, or has anything, including structures, that need to be removed or tended to, you will be contacted by email. If you fail to respond within 48 hours, you will receive a second email. You will have 2 weeks from date of initial contact to address the Garden Coordinator's concerns. If you do not correct the cited problems or make other arrangements with the Garden Coordinator before the 2 week warning period expires, your beds will be forfeited without a refund.

GARDEN SPACE

1. Gardens are open dawn to dark, 7 days a week.
2. Unwanted plant material may be added to the communal compost bins as long as it is mostly disease & pest free. Heavily diseased or pest infested plant materials **and weeds** should be placed in trash.
3. Water and hoses are provided. After use please coil hoses and return to their starting position ready for the next gardener. Water should be turned off at metal spigot and nozzle left open to allow drainage and reduce pressure on hoses.
4. Please respect your fellow gardeners and do not remove or disturb anything in their beds – including weeds – without permission. What looks like a weed to you may be valuable to someone else!
5. The Garden Coordinator will organize work days for weeding and mulching communal spaces, turning compost or planting and maintaining the pollinator and perennial food border. Gardeners are encouraged to volunteer at these workdays to help maintain our shared space.
6. Gardeners may add their own organic compost, soils and fertilizers as needed and desired.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are not allowed in the gardens.
2. Agreements are for exclusive use of the assigned beds.
3. Please park only in designated parking areas. Do not park vehicles on grass.
4. Damages to facilities and/or property, non-payment and not abiding by the guidelines set forth above are cause for cancellation/withdrawal of this agreement by Blythewood Presbyterian Church.
5. Personal pets are not allowed within a fenced garden area.
6. Gardener releases Blythewood Presbyterian Church, the Garden Coordinator, and their designees and representatives from any liability and holds them harmless from any claims resulting from the use of premises.

I understand that Blythewood Presbyterian Church, the Garden Coordinator, and their designers and representatives have complete authority over the Blythewood Presbyterian Church Garden. I have read and do understand the terms and conditions of this garden agreement and do hereby agree to abide by all applicable rules and regulations.

Signature

Date