

Mill Valley Community Gardens Information & Policies

1. Each gardener shall actively garden their plot. Gardeners who do not plant winter crops must keep plot and surrounding area free of weeds throughout the winter season. Garden inspections will occur on a monthly basis to ensure active gardening, proper weeding and vegetable harvesting.
2. An annual meeting and garden workdays will be set for mid-March with an additional workday in mid-October (rain/ make-up dates will be set if needed). These meetings/workdays are mandatory for all gardeners. Additional workdays will be added as needed. The workdays are for maintaining the garden common areas and not your personal plot. If you cannot attend a workday, then an alternate project in the garden will be assigned. If you do not meet these obligations, then a “warning” will be issued.
3. A garden “check” will take place each month by the designated Garden Volunteer and Recreation Staff. They will evaluate each plot and pathway for weeds, harvesting and overall appearance. Gardeners not meeting expectations will be notified and deadline will be given to rectify the problem(s). If the problem is not addressed by given deadline a “warning” will be given.
4. Gardeners receiving three warnings in one gardening season will be asked to give up their garden plot. Actions that warrant warnings include but are not limited to:
 - a) Inappropriate behavior or conduct with gardeners or Recreation staff.
 - b) Failure to comply with garden policies relating to plot usage.
 - c) Failure to use plot and be an active gardener.
5. Each gardener shall always keep their plot and adjacent paths free from weeds and debris. Weeds must be actively removed from plots to ensure weeds do not spread to surrounding plots.
6. Respect for garden neighbors requires consideration regarding tall and spreading plants and treating adjacent plots with care.
7. Common areas (pathways, etc.) must be kept clear of hoses, equipment, and plants.
8. No pesticides, herbicides or synthetic fertilizers may be used in or around the garden.
9. Plants not allowed in the garden: mint, horseradish, comfrey, raspberries, marijuana, and any other plants in the category of invasive species.
10. Boards/stepping stones must be turned up on a regular basis to avoid intrusion of snails and slugs.
11. Wooden plot walls may not be altered or cut. Check with Mill Valley Recreation staff with any issues.
12. Garden security is every gardener’s responsibility.
 - a) Leave your neighbor’s plants and produce in their plots.
 - b) Close and lock the gate upon leaving the garden making sure all gardeners and visitors are out of the garden.
 - c) Close and lock sheds.
 - d) Report thefts or other problems to the designated Garden Volunteer Coordinator.
13. Pets are not allowed in the garden.
14. Garden tools should be cleaned and dried after each use and returned to the appropriate shed. Sheds are for community items only.
15. Compost bins are an integral part of an organic garden.
 - a) Community Center Garden: Green garden waste should be put in compost bin #1 in pieces no larger than 12”. Observe the posted signs over each bin.
 - b) Bayfront Garden: Green garden waste should be placed in compost tumbler in pieces no larger than 12”.

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16. Green Cans should be used for garden waste that is too large or inappropriate for the compost bins. Weeds, woody pieces, thick stalks, or large root balls go into the Green Can. The Green Can is not for rocks, wood, soil, plastic and other garbage. Community Center Garden: When the can is full, return it to the MVCC garbage area adjacent to the parking lot and replace it with an empty Green Can. Bayfront Garden: When the can is full, return it to the designated area and replace it with an empty Green Can.
17. The Community Center Garden does not have garbage service. Any garbage should be deposited in the Community Center garbage bins. Garbage for the Bayfront Garden should be deposited in the black can located near green cans.
18. Making phone calls is discouraged in the garden. Please exit the garden if a phone call is necessary.
19. Gardeners added mid-season are still responsible for the rental fees and deposit.
20. Gardeners leaving their plot mid-season must notify the Recreation Department. The gardener must completely clear out their plot of plants, weeds, and tools in order to receive a refund of their deposit. Failure to clear out plot for a new gardener by the deadline set by Recreation staff will result in forfeit of deposit.
21. The use of irrigation systems must be approved by Recreation staff. The irrigation system in use cannot be on a timer or able to operate without the gardener present. If the irrigation system is connected to a hose, it must have a splitter to ensure that other gardeners can use the hose with ease.