

Shepherd of the Mountains

Community Garden Information and Policies

Welcome to the 2016 community garden season at Shepherd of the Mountains. We are anticipating a successful growing season providing food and friendships in our community and congregation. Our community gardening policies and procedures are important for all community gardeners to understand.

If you have any questions about this information, please call Mary Antinori (801.243.9635) or Kari Moe-Hoffman (435.729.9285).

Cooperation

This project will be more successful as all of our gardeners work together. We ask that in addition to your annual plot fee, you also make a contribution of 3 or more hours of your time by participating in the spring garden work day and general maintenance throughout the season (especially pathways).

Water use, drip irrigation and mulch.

Automatic drip irrigation systems operate at all plots. SOM will maintain these systems. Please do not alter the system in any way. Please report any problems or leaks to Mary or Jim Antinori, 435-649-6877. The drip system is a water-efficient method of garden irrigation. Each gardener should learn how the drip irrigation system works at a gardener orientation meeting or work day. You can also help make sure that water is not wasted, and greatly reduce your garden's water needs by using mulch (this also helps keep out weeds).

Please do your best to keep the drip lines straight and do not step on them. When you are working in your bed, slide them gently to one side. Folds in the lines can easily lead to cracks (and the need to replace the lines).

Land

No herbicides, pesticides or chemical fertilizers allowed. Our goal is to create and nurture healthy soil and a healthy plant environment in the garden. Because plant and soil health deteriorates with the use of chemicals, they are not allowed in our community garden. Gardeners using chemical weed killers, fertilizers and/or pesticides will lose gardening privileges. Let us know if you have any pest problems and we will work with you on organic options.

Weeds and Trash

It is the gardeners' responsibility to control the weeds and trash in their own plots and adjacent pathways during the season, and to clear their plot of trellis materials, weeds,

and plant debris at the end of the season. Remember, weeds in your bed mean weeds in other gardeners beds. **Weeds should not be put into compost piles or bins.** Weeds should be disposed of in the dumpster in the church parking lot.

Compost

Compost is delivered every spring. Gardeners need to add the compost to their own plots. In addition, we have composting bins on site managed by garden member George Moldenhauer.

On-Site Compost Bins - from George Moldenhauer, compost guru

Currently there are 4 composters on site at the church. There are 3 round bins, 2 of which contain finished compost. There is one on the East end and one on the West. Each of these have a board on top indicating that the material is ready and no new material should be placed in these 2. On a regular basis, I will sift then transfer the "ready" composted material into these bins. Feel free to use this material in your garden beds. Your plants will be happy that you did!

There are also 2 bins that are designed top new material...again one on each end of the garden. Feel free to place new yard material (grass clippings, bush trimmings etc.) kitchen waste etc. in these bins. Please no animal products. While they will degrade, they also will attract critters which are not necessary. Wet and green is encouraged as these break down faster and speed up the process for the rest of the dry material.

The also is a 5th compost pile right now which is on the East end of the garden and covered by a tarp. This is designed to speed up the process of the great deal of dry material we got after last years season. I will move this to the round digester on the West as soon as it has broken down (around June 1st) enough to speed up the process. As soon as I can, I will take more of the big dry material out of the pallet composter and repeat the process until we are caught up.

No Rebar

For safety reasons, rebar is not allowed for staking or trellising unless permission is granted by the Garden Coordinator.

Theft

Stealing of any kind is not permitted and will result in immediate loss of gardening privileges and forfeiture of any crops remaining in the garden.

Disrespectful Behavior

Disrespectful or abusive language, or destructive behavior (including vandalism) may result in the immediate loss of all gardening privileges, and forfeiture of any crops remaining in the garden.

Notification

All plots will be inspected on a regular basis. Gardeners of plots that have not been planted, are weedy, or do not meet any of these guidelines, will be notified. Failure to respond within 14 days will result in forfeiture of the plot. It is the responsibility of the gardener to notify Mary or Kari if he/she is no longer able to tend their plot; will be absent for a long period of time; or have asked a friend to tend their garden.

Please remember Shepherd of the Mountains is a non-profit organization supported by donated funds that must be raised annually. The purpose of our community gardening program is to provide access to land, water, education and general garden administration. The care and maintenance of the garden is the collective responsibility of the community gardeners.

SOM reserves the right to make changes or exceptions to policies where and when appropriate.

Garden Stewards

Mary Antinori (home 435.649.6877 or mobile 801.243.9635)

Jim Antinori (home 435.649.6877 or mobile 801.232.0550)

Kari Moe-Hoffman (mobile 435.729.9285)

Gate Care and Codes

Gate codes are on the Garden Reservations doc.

Please wrap lock cable several times so that the door is tight to the fence. This prevents children from slipping in. Thanks.

Natural Weed Killer Recipe

- 1 gallon white vinegar
- 2 cups Epsom salt (not table salt)
- 1/4 cup Dawn dishwashing detergent

Mix together in a one-gallon garden sprayer. Apply in the morning of a sunny day. Will kill grass. Recommended for in the garden pathways.