



BUILDING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND PRIDE
COMMON GROUND NORTH RICHLAND HILLS COMMUNITY GARDEN
P.O. BOX 821353, North Richland Hills, Texas 76182-1353

Adopt a Plot Terms of Agreement

For Common Ground North Richland Hills Community Garden

Please read the following guidelines carefully and agree to adhere to them by signing in the space provided on page 2.

Garden By-Laws are on the website with Policies/Procedures/Guidelines under the “About the Garden” tab.
www.nrhcommunitygarden.com

>Gardeners will strive to be good stewards to the land, learn and use organic gardening methods, when possible, to produce more disease resistant pest free plants and healthy, nutritious fruits and vegetables for consumption.

>The use of watering timers or soaker hoses is not allowed, as mechanical failure could create a loss of water and ruin crops. Hoses used for manual watering must be stored either inside the boundaries of your plot or on a raised hose hanger. Hoses CANNOT be left on the ground in the walkways as this presents a safety hazard to other gardeners and visitors.

>Before adding arches, cattle panels, pallet planters, potato towers, etc., please contact the garden coordinator for proper placement. ***Do not screw or nail items to your plot boards.***

>Plant restrictions include thorned blackberries, mint, and sunflowers. We have a dedicated asparagus plot. Please don't plant asparagus in the rental plots.

>All gardeners are required to keep individual plots in a planted, productive state during the growing season. Weeds and other vegetation must be controlled to limit the spread of disease, insects and growth into adjacent plots. **Keep dead vegetation cleared from your plot year round.** Gardens must be planted by April 1st and winterized by December 1st of the current growing year. Exception: Gardeners agree to keep their plot covered in straw or in an approved cover crop or landscape material when the plot is not in production *Winter gardens are encouraged, but must be maintained to minimum standards.*

>Gardeners are encouraged to donate any excess to the St. John's food pantry. See our website for donation instructions.

>Each gardener will support the garden by doing their fair share of common area work. Three (3) of the scheduled workdays per year (every 3rd Saturday of each month) is required of each plot owner. Considerations will be given for special skills, physical and mental capabilities and age. Youth participation is encouraged with **adult guidance. Tools should be cleaned before returning to the shed and put back in their designated location. Please do not store personal items in the shed.**

>Each gardener will be respectful of other gardeners' crops and plot and will not harvest produce or flowers without the plot owner's permission. When using someone's garden hose, ***please put it back as you found it.*** Do not remove the sprinkler head, unscrew from the water supply or leave laying in the pathways.

>Garden plots are restricted to the area within the boundary of your plot board enclosure. Plot vegetation may not extend beyond these boundaries into adjacent plots or common areas. Vertical crops such as pole beans and corn should be oriented in such a way as to allow adequate light to neighboring plots and must not interfere with pathways or adjacent plots. Common areas such as walkways and roadways must be kept clear in order to facilitate maintenance activities. Do not pile or throw mulch, weeds, rocks, or other materials into these areas. When not in use, ***keep hoses out of these common areas and on a hose holder or coiled inside your plot boards.***

>The Common Ground Garden Council is a group of volunteers who oversee the garden. The Garden Council will assist new gardeners, report maintenance issues, support gardeners with supplies and tools when available, check garden plots for compliance and be available to resolve problems. Gardeners are encouraged to bring ideas and issues forward to the members of the council for implementation or resolution. A list of current garden council members can be found on the website.

>Available plots shall be given to new gardeners before being given to an existing gardener. New gardeners will start with one plot their first year. If a plot becomes available during the year and no garden applicants are waiting for a plot, a gardener may request an additional plot, provided they have shown they are committed to the goals of the garden, keep their current plot producing, remove weeds, and share in the common work. The maximum allowance of garden plots by one family or group is two plots.

> You can parallel park next to the garden on the existing asphalt drive that is on the south side of the garden, but please do not block this drive. ADA approved parking locations are available in the parking lot adjacent to the garden.

>**Garden areas will be kept free of litter, tobacco, alcohol and drugs.**

>In the winter months please cover your plot with landscape cloth, approved cover crop or straw (not hay).

I agree to adhere to all guidelines as stated above including the Policies/ Procedures/ Guidelines and By-Laws documentation to garden in a Common Ground North Richland Hills Community Garden plot. Noncompliance will result in plot forfeiture. (see By-Laws)

I understand that Common Ground North Richland Hills Community Garden and the City of North Richland Hills are not responsible for my actions.

I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE COMMON GROUND NORTH RICHLAND HILLS COMMUNITY GARDEN and THE CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS. I AGREE TO FOLLOW ALL GUIDELINES SET FORTH.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____