Heights Christian Church
in partnership with

The Community Gardens of Shaker Heights

Daleford Road Community Garden, 2012 Growing Season
Visit us online at www.heightschristianchurch.org or www.gardensofshaker.org!

The Heights Christian Church Community Garden exists to promote the physical and spiritual health and wellbeing of area residents through this community garden and a meditative labyrinth that will beautify and make productive use of this vacant land.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
Plot fees are $35 for each 4’x12’ plot, with a maximum of two (2) plots per household.

The garden depends on its gardeners to keep plots, paths, and community areas productive and looking attractive to their fellow gardeners, the general public and the neighborhood. Each gardener is expected to volunteer a minimum of 6 hours per year (see Volunteer Form).

Each gardener’s commitment to the following items is especially important:
- Tending to his or her garden weekly, if not daily
- Keeping paths clear, and keeping all plants and compost within the plot
- Being courteous to other gardeners and cooperative in spirit
- Being respectful of the neighbors that live adjacent to the garden
- Cooperating with water use, and sharing gardening tools and equipment
- Helping with work parties, garden projects, and related events

Growing Season
Gardeners are responsible for keeping their plot maintained. Weedy plots are subject to warning or cancellation.

GENERAL GARDEN GUIDELINES

1. Each gardener is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot(s). Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to assist in the maintenance of their plots.

2. A limited number of tools, hoses and watering equipment are available at the church for public use. Except for specific work days or by special arrangement, these tools will
usually be available Monday-Friday from 8:30-3:30.

3. Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in the garden, but they must be accompanied by an adult and be supervised at all times.

4. Gardens and paths must be maintained on a consistent basis. Gardeners who have weedy, untended or debris filled plots will be notified and asked to clean up their plot or pathway within 5 days or their registration will be cancelled. Excessive trash or unsightly built structures may not accumulate in garden plots. No structure may encroach upon the paths, community spaces, or shade adjoining gardens. Plots may not contain permanent structures.

5. **Organic gardening** is required and expected. The application of chemical-based herbicides (weed killers), insecticides/pesticides, or fertilizers is strictly prohibited. If you have any questions about what is acceptable, please ask the garden manager.

6. Assignment of garden plots will be to Shaker Heights residents first and awarded on a first come, first serve basis through the registration deadline. After that date plots will be available for residents of other communities.

7. Plot fees are due in full before the garden season begins.

8. Cancellations must be phoned or emailed in. The plot fee will be returned if the cancellation call is received within two weeks of the garden registration deadline. Plot fees are non-refundable if there is a cancellation after two weeks, or if there is non-compliance with the garden guidelines.

9. Planting must be started by Memorial Day Weekend. If your garden is not started in a timely manner, your plot may be reassigned to the next individual on the waiting list.

10. Gardeners may harvest vegetables and flowers from their own plot(s) only, unless given specific permission from the owner of another plot.

11. At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for clearing their plot(s) of all plant material and leaving the plot(s) as they were found in the spring.

12. Pets are not permitted in the garden.

13. Water within your plot and do not let it drip or flood another garden plot or path. Gardeners must stay at the garden while watering. Water is available from the rain barrels located in the back of the lot, which will be refilled by staff as needed. If you find the rain barrels empty please contact the church at 216-561-4800.

14. **At the end of the growing season, the water bill will be divided equally among all garden participants.**

15. Crops are for personal use, not commercial purposes, and must be legal.

16. Plots are non-transferrable. Registered gardeners are responsible for keeping addresses, phone numbers, and emails current.

17. The Church staff are responsible for ensuring that the rules are followed at all times. Failure to follow these rules may result in loss of gardening rights.
18. The garden will be open to the public from 7:00am until 9:00pm.

19. Vehicles may not be parked on the garden property.

20. In light of HCC’s mission to serve the community, garden participants are urged to donate a portion of their crop to help feed others. A collection bin is provided at the Winslow door to the church. Your donations will be shared with local shelters and food pantries.

COMMUNITY GARDEN CODE OF CONDUCT

Please remember to:

• Be a good role model for others, especially children and youth
• Be safe, for the benefit of yourself and everyone else
• Pick up after yourself, do not leave items or debris in the pathways or common areas
• Respect others privacy
• Respect other persons, equipment, supplies, plants and plots
• Comply with all federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations

Refrain from the following:

• All forms of harassment
• Defacing property (structures, land, plants, or equipment)
• Disruptive or disorderly behavior
• Playing audio equipment at a volume that is disruptive to others or the neighbors
• Smoking or using chewing tobacco on the garden property
• Using or being under the influence of any intoxicating substance
• Using profanity
• Possessing weapons on site
• Leaving your children unsupervised

By respecting this Code of Conduct, everyone is welcome, comfortable and safe in our garden.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!

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