



Racine Urban Garden Network

Lynne Leithleiter, Steering Committee Chair

424 Lake Ave Apt 502

Racine WI 53403-1095

262-637-7698

leithlei@sbcglobal.net

www.RUGN.org

GUIDELINES & RULES

1. **Plots.** Garden plots are reserved for one gardening season, from spring to fall. A gardener has no guarantee that any plot will be re-assigned to them the following year(s). Therefore, any plant materials planted, such as a perennial herb, is planted at the gardener's own risk. Tomato cages especially need to be removed at the end of the gardening season.
2. **Neighboring plots.** Do not pick, take, weed, destroy or steal anything from another gardener's plot.
3. **Pest Control.** Only organic means of pest control may be used. Any questions, contact the Garden Coordinator.
4. **Plot maintenance.** You are expected to actively garden and maintain your plot in an acceptable manner. All garden plots must be worked by May 15th. If a gardener is finished using his/her plot before the official end of the gardening season in the fall, the gardener must clear his/her plot and notify the Garden Coordinator within one week after harvesting. Failure to do so will result in denial of plot rental the following season.
5. **Warning Notices and Plot Reassignment.** A first warning will be mailed to any gardener whose plot looks untended. The gardener has one week to remedy the situation. A second warning will be given via phone call, with one week to remedy the complaint. If the plot is *still* not gardened – after two warnings and two weeks – his/her plot will be cleared and it will be reassigned to the next person on the Wait List. A notice of reassignment will be mailed and attempts to phone the past gardener at least three times on three separate days will be made. “...an acceptable manner” means that you are actively gardening – digging, sowing, planting, weeding, pruning, watering, harvesting, etc. – once a week at the very least during the growing season. If you are ill or on short vacation, ask a friend/relative or another garden plot holder to water and tend your plot.
5. **Pathways.** You are responsible for weeding and taking care of the paths bordering your plot. It must be smooth to walk on and kept free of debris and weeds. These paths cannot be eliminated and must be kept clear. Plants cannot extend onto the walkway. Be considerate of all who walk past. Prune, tie back or transplant errant plants – especially if they are thorny.
6. **Plant materials discouraged.** **Trees** are NOT permitted in individual garden plots. **Woody shrubs** must not exceed 3 feet in height and their root system must not extend beyond the plot in which they are planted. Woody shrubs may only be planted with the prior approval of the Garden Coordinator. If planting **tall plants**, plant where they are least likely to cast shade upon your neighbors' plots.
7. **Standing towers and walls.** “Highrise” structures, walls, or any assemblage of materials that encloses a plot or intrudes on another's is not permitted. Only one side of a garden plot can have vertical trellis-like, open, airy structures for supporting climbing vegetables, vines or flowers. Poles, stakes, cages and other supports that are used for plants are allowed. If you have questions, ask the Garden Coordinator.
8. **Water/Hoses.** Please conserve water. The water supply is only to be used by gardeners caring for their assigned areas. No washing of cars or other personal, non-garden related items. Please shut off spigot and neatly rewind the hose after use. Take special care not to damage another's plants when pulling the hose to your plot. Water another's plot **only** if you have been asked to.
9. **Volunteer.** As a condition of maintaining your own plot, you are required to work in the public areas of the garden, according to the schedule provided. Spring and fall clean-up events will be hosted. If you cannot make it to the events, please put in time before or after the event to help clean up. Event notices will be mailed accordingly.
10. **Activities in the Garden.** Walking through or standing in any garden plot not your own is not permitted. Littering, urinating, and defecating are absolutely prohibited. Amplified sound is not permitted except through headphones.
11. **Pets.** For the safety of all gardeners growing edibles, no pets are allowed in or near the plots.

I have read and agree to abide by the above rules and guidelines. I understand that failure to observe any of them may result in garden privileges being revoked and/or garden plots being reassigned.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name printed: _____