

VFW PARK STONE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY GARDEN

In partnership with:

DeKalb Extension & Georgia Master Gardeners in DeKalb
Stone Mountain City Council and the City of Stone Mountain

Garden Use Commitment and Responsibilities

March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018

To have and use one or more (not to exceed 3) garden plots, participants must agree to the following guidelines:

1. **ANNUAL FEE: \$25 per plot (4 ft. by 12 ft.)** Fees are due at the signing of this agreement and are for one year. They cover the use of one plot from March 1st of the year paid through February 28th of the next year and are not refundable. All fees will be applied towards purchase of general supplies for garden set-up, upkeep and maintenance. Use agreements must be signed and submitted prior to April 30th of each year. Not signing a use agreement prior to the deadline will forfeit the use of the garden plot for that year.
2. **Water conservation** practices are required to reduce the use of on-site water supply and to stay within the recommended watering restrictions.
 - Please monitor your water use and do not leave the water running when you are off site. Participants found leaving water running into their beds will be assessed an extra water fee (to be based on facility water bills, monthly service).
 - After using a communal water hose, you are expected to re-wrap it on its holder carefully and without kinks in the tubing.
 - All beds should be mulched to reduce water loss and to limit weed growth.
3. **TOOL POLICY:**
 - All participants should bring their required hand tools and garden implements with them and carry them off site after each use. No one is responsible for personal tools left behind after gardeners have left the area.
 - We do have some communal tools, which everyone is welcome to use. Please clean them off and replace them in the tool chest when you are done.
4. **WEED CONTROL:**
 - Each participant must keep his/her plot or plots as free of weeds as possible. If your plot goes untended for three weeks, and becomes a weed-patch, the Community Garden Board retains the right to go into this bed and entirely clean it out by whatever means is required and offer this reclaimed bed to a new client.
 - All gardeners are prohibited from applying pesticides – insecticides and herbicides anywhere in and around the community garden and its beds.

- The only chemicals gardeners can use are fertilizers or pre-mixed manures and amendments that you bring into the garden and use solely for your own use.

5. **GENERAL UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE:**

- **All garden participants are asked to give a minimum of 4 hours of service per 6-month period assisting with general cleanup and mulching.** This will keep the area neat and ready to use for everyone. This volunteer time can include a scheduled garden workday where everyone comes together and is coordinated by a member of the Community Garden Board or one of the Master Gardeners.
- Gardeners need to help with the maintenance in and around their own boxes. This includes weeding around the outside of the boxes, placing garden waste, weeds and woody materials in the appropriate bins, and putting all borrowed tools, watering cans, wheel barrows in their proper locations.

6. **HARVESTING:**

- **There must be no harvesting from neighboring garden beds** unless invited or you have written permission from that garden occupant.
- Proven pilferage can be reason to lose your garden plot.

7. **PET POLICY:**

- It has been decided that pets are **not** permitted at the Community Garden, even if leashed.
- **No cat or dog manures are to be placed in garden beds because they carry pests or diseases harmful to humans.**

8. **GENERAL GARDEN Behavior: Please** respect the rights of others who may be coming to enjoy some peace and solitude. If you are working by yourself, feel free to play music and enjoy yourself. When others are present, always conduct yourself in a pleasant, polite manner.

9. **Gardening with your children and grandchildren is encouraged!** There are few activities that are better for their health and their capacity to learn and experience the natural world. **BUT** we also ask that you teach them about rules and garden responsibility. This means that you cannot allow them to run around the garden wildly or misuse tools or damage or destroy other gardens, plants or work areas. Repeated reports of these types of offences will result in possible exclusion from the garden area.

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GARDEN COMMITMENT AGREEMENT for March 1, 2017– Feb. 28, 2018

I, the undersigned, agree to abide by all the previously listed use policies and I will strive to be helpful and respectful of my fellow gardeners. All children and pets brought onto the site are also covered by this agreement.

I release the Community Garden Board, and all Master Gardeners, from any liability due to injury or accident that may occur during my use of the community garden space or the equipment or materials supplied.

Signature _____

Name (Printed) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

DATE OF AGREEMENT: _____

Plot number(s): _____

Fee: _____ PAID Management Initials: _____