



Lupe's Community Garden As Program of Philomath Community Services

Lupe's Community Garden is located on the South end of the Philomath Community Service Building in Philomath. This 2-acre garden hosts nearly 20 community garden plots, a shared small-fruit area, and provides two ADA-accessible garden beds. Garden amenities include a stocked tool shed, wheelbarrows, access to wood chips & leaves, city water, sandbox play area, and a picnic table. Most of the garden plots are roughly 4 x 20 feet, with raised beds of various sizes.

In March, planting beds are assigned. Gardeners in good standing who have had spaces the previous season may continue with their assignment. Continuing gardeners who desire a change of planting bed must request a change by March 1st if there is an available space. Planting beds will be assigned to new gardeners as spaces become available. Raised beds are given priority for individuals with mobility challenges.

Plot Reservation

Choose from:

In-ground plot (100 square foot plots)

ADA Raised Beds (10 square foot plots; only two available)

Trough Raised Beds (8 square foot plots; only four available)

Gardeners are encouraged to donate for each plot they maintain each year. This contribution will help cover the costs of maintaining the garden. Gardeners are also encouraged to complete six hours of community service to help preserve the overall garden. This work may include mowing, weed whacking, tool repair, assisting with the community orchard, maintaining pathways, and working on compost bins. Gardeners are encouraged to contact the Community Garden Manager directly for additional ideas.

Due to possible flooding in the winter months, all plots are available from April through October. Gardeners who plan to return the following year may request to have their plot held for them but need to make such plans with the Garden manager.

Gardeners planning to return the following year may elect to use a different mulch so long as their garden plot soil is covered to the same degree, e.g., straw, living cover crop, or sheet mulch. This material is NOT provided by the Community Garden Manager.

Garden Rules

Upon plot approval, the gate combination will be provided. The gate is locked when no one is present in the garden. Plot gardeners are required to lock the gate once done with garden work. If there is a problem with the lock, immediately contact the Garden Manager or PCS office.

Gardeners are to maintain plots that do not intrude on other gardens. Including:

- Keep weeds under control
- Respect other's garden spaces, plants, and belongings
- Use of organic pest control and fertilizers as needed; limit use of conventional fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides
- Limit excess water use
- No invasive/ aggressively spreading plants, e.g., bamboo, mint
- No federally illegal plants (i.e. cannabis)

Negligent gardeners will be given warnings. After three warnings, the garden manager will question the offenders' plot availability. This can result in the plot being cleared and assigned to another.

Please conserve water by using mulches and/or soaker hoses or drip lines. Each plot has its own water valve with drip lines with various sprinklers. It is recommended an automatic timer for watering is used. If the gardener would like to change the type of sprinklers/water line, discuss alternatives with the Garden Manager. Spigots with hoses are available to spot water if needed. Before leaving for the day, check that the water is off to the hoses.

The garden shed will be locked unless the Garden Manager or staff are present or during garden hours. A subset of tools is available outside the shed. Please clean before returning and notify the garden manager of missing or broken tools.

At the end of the season (roughly October), garden plots are to be cleaned up and put to rest. This means removing all spent plants, weeds, and other materials or structures and laying down at least 4 inches of mulch (leaves provided). Additionally, all garden structures need to be completely taken down. (For example, no tarps, row cover, fencing, pots, etc. blowing around.)

Philomath Community Services and all project volunteers shall be held free from any liability for any personal injuries or damage to property resulting from your participation in Lupe's Community Garden.

Philomath Community Services is an equal opportunity provider.