

AFIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COMMUNITY GARDEN
Guidelines, Responsibilities, and Agreement for use of Garden Plots

The Church will provide:

Garden plots in raised beds, including a limited number of wheelchair accessible beds.

Soil and mulch.

Access to rain barrels and timely refills of rain barrels for watering.

Access to basic garden tools, hoses, and watering cans.

Designated locations for garden waste and disposal of trash.

Restroom access in the church during business hours.

Maintenance of border plantings and communal areas.

Garden oversight and management, in cooperation with the Garden Committee.

Gardening information and education.

Management of plot leasing, including assignment of plots and collection of fees.

Selection and assignment of plots:

Plots will be available for lease each year beginning on March 1.

The cost of each plot for the growing season is \$15. The fee will be refunded at the end of the growing season if the plot is cleaned up on time.

Gardeners who are not able to pay the fee should contact the Outreach Coordinator as some financial assistance may be available.

Plots will be assigned on a first come first served basis.

Each plot will be assigned to one gardener who is responsible for the plot. The gardener may garden alone, may represent a family, or represent an organized group.

After the first year, returning gardeners will have the choice of keeping their plots or changing to other available beds in the garden.

Failure to comply with gardener responsibilities will result in the loss of access to plots for the following year.

Responsibilities of gardeners:

Plots must be planted by the end of May. Depending on the choice of plants and the weather, some plants can be planted earlier than others.

Plots must be cleaned out by two weeks after the last growing date. This may vary by year depending on the weather but definitely by the end of October.

If you have leased plots that you will not be using, please notify the Outreach Coordinator so that your fee can be refunded, and the plot(s) can be reassigned to others.

This is a residential neighborhood. Please be respectful of other gardeners and community residents with noise level and music.

Gardeners will not host any events in the garden without advanced approval.

Gardeners are responsible to maintain your own plots. Please weed regularly to prevent the dispersal of weed seeds. Water your plants as needed and harvest ripe produce.

Gardeners should not plant perennials, controlled substances such as marijuana, or invasive species such as morning glory or mint.

Be sure that any spray or fertilizer you use is only used on your plot(s). Wind can blow spray easily so use spray only on calm days.

Harvest produce from your own plot(s) only. Do not pick or eat produce belonging to another gardener unless you have written permission of the gardener.

The picking bed is available to everyone. Please help yourselves but leave some for others as well.

Harvest crops once they are mature. If you have extra produce you cannot use, please let the Outreach Coordinator know so that it can be provided to the food pantry for distribution.

Clean and put away garden tools and hoses when you are finished using them.

Pick up and properly dispose of garden waste, trash, rocks, or other unwanted items.

Children are welcome in the garden but must be supervised so that they don't disturb plots belonging to others.

Service animals only are allowed in the garden, no other pets. The owner is responsible for disposal of animal waste.

Please notify the Outreach Coordinator if there are unresolved conflicts, or if you find evidence of vandalism, theft, damage, or other destruction.

Gardening and Plant Information:

There will be resource information available about growing specific kinds of plants. If you have questions, please contact the Outreach Coordinator.

Please report to the Outreach Coordinator disease or insects on your plants to control any infestations before they spread through your garden plot or the plots of others.

Many insects are good and help plants to form fruit and vegetables.

Be careful to spray herbicide or pest control sparingly or ask for help before you try to control unwanted pests so that you don't damage other plants.

FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS CONTACT: Prince Solace, Outreach Coordinator, First Presbyterian Church,
510 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
517 482-0668, extension 11
psolace@lansingfirstpres.org

Gardener Application:

I have read the First Presbyterian Church Community Garden Guidelines, Responsibilities and Agreement and agree to follow the guidelines and stated gardener responsibilities.

Name of Gardener: (please print) _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Signed (responsible gardener) _____

Do you represent an organization? If so, please give the name _____

Others in organization who may be gardening: _____

I request the following garden beds for 2023 (please indicate the number of beds you want):

_____ 8' x 4' wheelchair accessible raised beds (4 available)

_____ 8' x 4' regular raised beds (15 available)

Please list any special needs or special requests, including requests to be assigned to specific garden beds _____

First Presbyterian Church Approval:

Garden use fee: _____ Date paid _____

Garden Bed number(s) assigned _____

Church approval _____ Date _____

Return this page and your lease payment to:

Prince Solace, Outreach Coordinator
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