

Beaches Community Organic Garden Member Agreement

1. The garden area is open daily from dawn to dusk for garden members and volunteers. There will be hours posted when it is open to the public. If a garden member brings a guest to help with their garden plot, they are completely responsible for their guest. Guests may only visit the garden unaccompanied during public visiting hours or with prior approval.
2. A combination lock secures the front gate and tool shed. Only garden members will be given the combination and are expected to be responsible with the information.
3. Payment of garden dues is necessary before you begin gardening and should be submitted when a plot is assigned to you. Initial plot assignments will be chosen by lottery. This fee is \$10/month/plot with three hours volunteer time, or \$20/month/plot. Payments should be made upon plot selection for a minimum of the first six months up front, with the remainder paid in March. If you would prefer to pay month to month, this can be done with an additional \$20 deposit, to be returned at the end of the year. Volunteer time may include helping with general maintenance and beautification or participating as a member on a garden committee and is strongly encouraged. Checks should be made payable to: SEE/Beaches Local Food Network; 1166 3rd Ave. N., Jax. Beach, FL 32250.
4. The garden member cycle lasts one year, from October to October. Garden members may re-apply in July in order to participate in the following year. The first year's plots will be chosen by lottery, with six plots (25%) reserved for Neptune Beach residents. The remainder of Neptune Beach residents who apply will be entered in the lottery with other applicants. If garden members are able to participate in consecutive years, organizers will try to arrange for gardeners to maintain the same plot.
5. The monthly garden member fee covers several things: a) Your own garden plot with top soil medium added; b) An introductory organic gardening course, including topics such as mulch, compost, watering, organic fertilizers and pesticides; c) Access to a wide range of information from other garden members and the garden coordinators; d) Access to seed and plant sharing potential with other garden members; e) Moderate harvesting from fruit trees, berries, and herbs from the communal beds and orchard; f) A share of fertile, finished compost on site when available.
6. Garden members may choose to be part of the tool co-op. For a \$20 annual fee, gardeners may use any of the community tools at the garden but they may never be taken off the premises. The tools must be cared for - always cleaned and returned to the tool shed when finished. These tools will be repaired or replaced by garden coordinators as needed, given they are being cared for properly.
7. The person signing this agreement is the main caretaker of the plot, and it is not to be lent out to someone else. Garden members may arrange for other members to water their plot, and remain responsible for that person's actions.
8. The garden member assumes all responsibility for any personal injuries or accidents occurring while working in the Community Garden. Neither the City of Neptune Beach, Beaches Local Food Network, nor the Garden Coordinators are responsible for any personal injuries or accidents.

9. Garden plots should be cared for at least once per week. Weeds will not be allowed to accumulate or take over a garden plot. Gardeners are responsible for removing any disease and/or insect infested plants promptly. All plots will be inspected by the garden coordinators. Garden members who have plots that have not been planted, are weedy, or do not meet the guidelines will be notified in writing. Failure to respond in writing within 14 days will result in forfeiture of the plot.
10. Be considerate of other gardeners. Do not plant sprawling or tall crops that might interfere with others' sunlight or space.
11. Garden members may harvest edibles from their garden plot only. There are also communal beds that contain herbs, berries, and fruit trees that may be harvested by garden members in moderation.
12. Do not touch other gardener's plots unless you speak with them first or have a prior understanding. Even if you think you are helping, it is not always the case.
13. Garden members are responsible for clearing their plot of all plant material as well as removing and disposing of any stakes, plastics, and garbage from the garden plot by the end of the season (date will be posted), unless they are renewing their plot. The garden plot will be left in good condition once vacated.
14. Notify the garden coordinators in writing if you are no longer able to tend your plot, will be absent for a long period of time, or have asked a friend to tend your garden.
15. Gardeners will respect watering regulations set by the SJRWMD.
<http://sjr.state.fl.us/irrigationrule/summary.html>
16. Please conserve the use of water. Mulch with leaves or straw to reduce water evaporation. Make sure all faucets are off when you leave the garden. Keep hoses neatly rolled up near the water tap.
17. Herbicides and chemical fertilizers are prohibited in the garden. Garden coordinators can recommend organic methods that will help to create and maintain the soil's long-term health.
18. Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied by an adult.
19. Help discourage vandalism and theft by harvesting ripe food.
20. No pets or smoking allowed within the garden.
21. This contract must be renewed each year to maintain current contact information.

Signature of Gardener

Printed Name of Gardener

Address

City State Zip

Phone

Date

Plot

Email Address