



# River Forest Park District

401 Thatcher Avenue • River Forest, IL 60305 • 708-366-6660 • rfparks.com

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

### Pump House Site at Jackson Avenue and Berkshire Street in River Forest

The River Forest Park District and the Village of River Forest are offering River Forest residents the opportunity to rent one to three (maximum 3) 4'x10' garden plots per household for the purpose of a vegetable garden. The Community Gardens are a Carry In/Carry Out park site, requiring all participants to carry out any trash they generate in the park and dispose of it at their homes. There are no trash cans available at the garden site.

**Fee:** Cash or check only, no credit cards will be accepted. A non-refundable \$25.00 fee to rent one 4' x 10' garden plot. In addition, a \$50.00 refundable security deposit will be required. The security deposit will be refunded at the end of the growing season (November 1<sup>st</sup>) if the plot is cleaned up and cleared of all plant material, fencing, cages, stakes, and other items.

The \$25.00 garden plot fee includes the rental of a grass-free 4' x 10' garden plot, access to a water supply on the north side of the garden area, access to compost provided at the beginning of the growing season while supplies last, and participation in any Community Garden events.

**Registration:** The registration deadline for spring/summer planting is April 1, 2019. The registration deadline for summer planting only is May 13, 2019. Registrations are only being accepted at the River Forest Administration Offices (no online registration) at 401 Thatcher Avenue, River Forest. Registration hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30am - 4:30 pm. Participants are required to complete a registration form, sign a waiver, and make full payment before being assigned a garden plot(s). Garden plots will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

**Garden Manager:** The Village of River Forest Sustainability Commission shall appoint a Garden Manager to oversee the activities of the garden and organize events. The Garden Manager will have the email addresses of all participants.

### Community Garden Rules

1. Garden plots shall be cultivated and planted by June 3, 2019. Garden plots shall not be left fallow or unused for any period greater than three weeks. Garden plots shall be well maintained during the entire growing season.
2. No participant shall expand their garden plot beyond the 4' x 10' size, nor shall plant material be allowed to grow outside the garden plot limits. The height of plants in the garden plot shall not exceed 6' unless approved by the Garden Manager.
3. Fencing up to 4' high, caging, and staking are permitted in the garden plot. All materials must be a black, green, or galvanized colored product.
4. Water is available via a water spigot on the north side of the garden area. Participants must fill containers to water their gardens. Use of a garden hose attached to the spigot is prohibited.

5. The use of and application of **herbicides** (weed killers) **to the garden plots is strictly prohibited. Pesticides** (insect/disease) **of any kind must be approved in advance by the** Garden Manager.
6. Garden participants may harvest vegetables and flowers **from their garden plots only.** Any violation will result in the loss of the garden plot and the security deposit.
7. Children are welcome in the garden area, but must be accompanied by an adult and are the responsibility of the adult. Children must follow all Community Garden Rules.
8. All pets are prohibited in the garden area.
9. Garden plots must be cleaned with all debris removed by November 1<sup>st</sup> in order to receive a refund of the \$50.00 security deposit.

Any violation of the Community Garden Rules will result in an email warning by the Garden Manager to make corrective action within a 2 week period. Any participant who does not make corrective action or receives multiple email warnings will forfeit their garden plot and their security deposit.