



River Forest Park District

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 the opportunity to rent up to two (2) 4'x10' garden plots per household for the purpose of a vegetable garden. New this year, registration for the garden plots will be opened to both residents and to non-residents (after a resident registration period).

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: A non-refundable R\$25/NR\$50 fee to rent one 4' x 10' garden plot.

The 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: Registration for the garden plot(s) for River Forest residents will open on Monday, March 1st. Registration for garden plot(s) for non-residents will open on Monday, April 5th. Registrations are only being accepted at The Depot (no online registration), 401 Thatcher Avenue, River Forest. Registration hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 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). For River Forest residents, an ID and a copy of their water or utility bill are required for proof of residency.

Gardens plots are not transferable.

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 1st. 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 or green colored galvanized material.

4. Water is available via a water spigot on the north side of the garden area.
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.
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 1st. Gardeners who do not clean their garden plot will be assessed a \$50 clean up fee.

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.