



## **Policies and Guidelines 2016**

### **Purpose**

Obeying the command of our Lord and Savior to feed the hungry (Mt 25), the primary purpose of the Crossroads Community Garden shall be to provide organically grown vegetables for the Hospitality House and others in need.

### **Guidelines..**

1. The Crossroads Community Garden shall be under the supervision of the Session of the Crossroads Presbyterian Church. The Session shall appoint a team to supervise the day-to-day operations of the garden. Until the Team is appointed the Pastor shall supervise the development and operations of the garden.
2. The Crossroads Community Garden Team shall report to the Session through the Building and Grounds Ministry Team.
3. The Crossroads Community Garden Team shall assign the plots for individual and community use.
4. An annual donation of \$25.00 is requested for each 10x10 foot individual garden plot. This will also entitle the gardener access to water and the community compost pile. Donations for the maintenance and development of the Community Gardens may be given to the Crossroads Presbyterian Church. These donations shall be designated as tax deductible contributions.
5. No refunds will be made after May 21.
6. A garden plot is restricted to the area marked by stakes. Gardens shall not be expanded into an adjacent plot or walkway.
7. More than one plot may be leased. Adjoining plots may be connected only with the approval of the Crossroads Community Garden Team.
8. Gardeners are asked to donate at least 10% of their harvest to Hospitality House Food Pantry.
9. Gardeners are encouraged but not required to work on community plots to assist in the production of food for Hospitality House.
10. Growing produce or flowers for sale is prohibited unless the entire proceeds are donated to Hospitality House Food Pantry. If a gardener is found selling produce or flowers, the plot use agreement may be immediately terminated.

11. Dogs may only be brought into the gardening area when issues of safety are a concern. If a dog is brought into the gardening area, it must be kept on a leash at all times and any dog waste shall be removed.
12. Please respect the rights and privacy of neighbors close to your plot.
13. Gardeners are expected to bring their own tools and other equipment.
14. The use of chemical pesticides and herbicides is prohibited except when authorized by the Crossroads Community Garden Team because of a severe plague of insects or disease. The Community Garden Program will evaluate the request on a case by case basis.
15. Gardeners shall not harvest produce or flowers from another plot without permission.
16. Each garden plot shall be maintained. If a plot contains grass or plant growth over 18 inches tall, you will be asked to take corrective action. If corrective action is not taken within 5 days, privileges to garden will be terminated.
17. Walkways between plots are to be kept clear in order to facilitate maintenance activities. Do not pile or throw mulch, weeds, rocks, or other materials into these areas. The organic waste bins are to be used only for the disposal of unwanted organic debris. All trash must be removed from the garden site.
18. The following plants are prohibited: Trees, woody shrubs, grape vines, stinging plants, poison oak, and all plants listed on the Michigan's Invasive Plant List
19. By mid-November, gardens must be winterized. All dead, woody vegetation (corn, sunflower, tomato, etc.) must be removed from the garden plot and deposited in the organic waste bin or disposed of. You may cover your garden plot with plastic or leaves to control grass and weed growth during winter and spring, or with winter crops. Items such as plastic chairs, fertilizer bags, plastic containers, debris, and other miscellaneous items must be removed from the garden plot by mid-November. After mid November, all such items shall be considered garbage or abandoned property and shall be removed by the Crossroads Community Garden Team.
20. The Crossroads Presbyterian Gardens Program will maintain the garden fencing, and irrigation systems.