



Community Garden Guidelines

The Pipestone Community Garden is sponsored by the City of Pipestone and SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Program). There are no income requirements. Please note that the Community Garden Application form can be picked up at the City of Pipestone Offices at 119 2nd Avenue SW or downloaded the form at www.progressivepipestone.com under "Our Community" page starting in March.

Garden Details:

- **Deadline.** Plot registration applications may be submitted starting March 15th of the gardening year.
Applications must be received by April 20th. Garden placement is on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to people who successfully gardened in the Pipestone Community Garden program last year. City of Pipestone will make every attempt to allow a gardener to return to the same plot, but this is not a guaranteed. There is a limit of one (1) per household unless there are vacant plots.
- **Fees.** The garden season fee pays for water bills, plowing/tilling expenses, and future garden investments. The season fee for all garden sites is **\$15** and is due at the time of registration. Cash, check, or debit/credit cards are acceptable forms of payment. There is an additional 3% fee on all credit/debit card transactions.
- **Forfeiture.** You will forfeit your plot if you fail to maintain your plot or to follow these rules. Garden coordinator determines that a plot or its owner is in violation of these guidelines:
 1. Written notice of the problem and request for a corrective action will be mailed.
 2. If the problem remains unresolved one (1) week after the notice is sent, a two-week deadline notice will be sent out.
 3. If the gardener does not comply within two (2) weeks, he/she will be evicted.
- **Garden Agreement.** If you are selected to be a community gardener, you have committed to maintaining your plot for the ENTIRE growing season. You must plant by June 15th and must clean out your plot by October 1st.
- **Cleanup. EVERYTHING** (plants, fencing, supports, etc.) must be removed by October 1st.
- **Neighborliness.** The garden is a community. Be considerate. If you can help your neighbor, please do so. If you have a question, ask your neighbor or the garden coordinator at 507-825-3324.
- **Prohibitions.** Perennial plants, trees, shrubs, corn, building materials, **CARPET** and **ORANGE PLASTIC FENCING** (black or green is ok) are not allowed in the community gardens.
- **Soil Condition.** You are encouraged to make soil improvements to your plot using organic materials such as untreated lawn clippings and compost. Your plants are only as good as your soil.
- **Tilling.** City employees will have plots tilled and ready to plant as soon as possible; we will try to have tilling and staking done as soon as the spring weather permits. The Community Garden coordinator will be contacting you when the garden is available after tilling and staking are done. You can also drive by to see if plots are staked. The coordinator can be reached by email at aburke@cityofpipestone.com or by phone at 507-825-3324.
- **Tools.** City will be supplying a few basic tools for the garden. Please return them promptly to garden tool shed when you are through using them, especially if there are other gardeners

who may want to use them. Clean off tools before putting away. Report missing or broken tools to the garden coordinator. Tools are used at gardener's own risk. Tools are donated for garden use only.

- **Trash Removal.** Anything you bring into the garden you are expected to carry out; the gardens do have access to a garbage tote. If you use landscape fabric, please secure with lawn staples to prevent it from flying away. Securing also goes for milk jugs and other plant supports.
- **Watering.** Conservation is required, city watering rules must be followed AND garden water stays at the garden (this water is NOT for your personal use).
- **Weed Control.** This is YOUR garden so you are responsible for grass and weed control in your plot and aisles around your plot (weed each of your plot's 4 sides) because a weeded plot is a happy plot.
- **Garden Keys.** ALL keys must be turned in to the Community Garden coordinator by October 15th. Keys NOT returned by deadline could cause unacceptable applications for the next year.
- **Pets.** Pets are not allowed within the garden
- **Smoking.** The Pipestone Community Garden is a tobacco-free zone, no cigarette smoking or chewing tobacco is allowed.