

HEALTHY COMMUNITY GARDENS

Long Prairie

Gardener Guidelines

Registration – All gardeners will complete a registration and waiver form and pay the fee prior to beginning any gardening. Forms are available at the Long Prairie Chamber of Commerce, 42 3rd Street No, Long Prairie. 320-732-2514.

A Fee of \$35 per 20'x20' plot is due before the gardening season begins. This fee helps to pay for water and incidental expenses of the community garden. The fee is paid to the Long Prairie Chamber of Commerce.

Assignment of Garden Plots will be on a first come basis.

Exceptions to assigning plots first come basis may be made for elderly or disabled persons. At the end of the growing season, gardeners may request the same plot for the following year.

Season and Hours – The garden plots will be available for gardening May 1 – Oct 15th **weather permitting- subject to change**. Garden only during daylight hours, for your safety.

Courtesy Creates a Positive Environment.

-Each gardener is responsible for all maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot, including weeding, harvesting, watering and general upkeep of their plot.

-Gardeners may harvest vegetables and flowers only from their own garden plot.

-Gardeners must keep their plants within the boundaries of their plot. The corner stakes marking boundaries are not to be moved. Consider location of tall plants and vines so that they do not interfere with your neighbor's garden. Plants and vines are not to be allowed to extend into the paths.

-Paths are to be kept clear for safety reasons.

-There is no garbage service so bring your paper, plastic litter home with you for disposal.

-Loud radios or boom boxes are discouraged as fellow gardeners may not appreciate your listening choices.

-Smoking or chewing tobacco is not allowed as this may contribute to disease in certain plants.

-Consuming alcoholic beverages at the garden is prohibited.

-It is prohibited to grow any illegal plants.

-Fires are not allowed.

-Use common courtesy and be considerate of your gardening neighbors.

Perennials - At this time only annual plants will be allowed. Successful implementation of the Community Garden is needed. A future evaluation may allow perennials in the future, but not at this early stage of development of the Community Garden.

Children – Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied by an adult and must be supervised at all times.

Tools –Your personal tools must be taken home with you each day, for security reasons.

Water –Water will be available as weather permits when the chance of frozen water lines has past. A moderate amount of water is available for the plants. Do not leave the water on unattended. You may request the assistance of another gardener with watering your plot.

Weeds – All plots should look tidy and be kept weed-free throughout the growing season. The gardener of a weedy plot will be contacted by the Co-Chairs, and requested to remove their weeds. Please see section Abandoned Plots.

Mulch is an effective method to control weeds and conserve soil moisture. Gardeners are encouraged to consider the use of mulch.

Pesticides – The use of pesticides in the garden plots is strongly discouraged. A list of other suggested treatments will be made available. You are encouraged to contact a Master Gardener for information about how to control pests, weeds, or plant diseases without the use of chemicals.

Plant Waste is best used by composting or digging it into the soil, or as mulch on top. Diseased plant waste must be removed from the garden and disposed of at your home garbage.

Motorized Vehicles are not permitted; exceptions may be chair scooters used by disabled persons.

Pets are not allowed in the garden.

Nuisance Animals – Please report nuisance animals to the Garden Committee or to the local police.

Fences around the perimeter of the garden plot are discouraged; fencing materials may be used as a trellis for support of plants and vines within the plot.

Garden Ornaments – Ornaments need to be garden related such as scare crow or windmill type to keep birds away, rain gauges, garden structures such as trellis, etc.

End of Season Clean Up- At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for clearing their plot of all plants and non-plant materials, fences, etc. and leaving the plot as it was found in the spring.

Abandoned Plots- Any garden plot that is apparently abandoned may be reassigned after the Co -Chairs have made efforts to contact the gardener without any response over a 3-week period. If you are unable to care for your plot for an extended time, please discuss the situation with the Co -Chairs for planning. In special circumstances where illness, injury or other commitments with a known end-date prevent care of your plot, contact the Co-Chairs and make other arrangements for care of the plot.

Emergencies- For any medical or law enforcement emergency, please call 911. Report theft, vandalism, and unusual activities to the Garden Committee Co-Chairs and the police.

Healthy Community Garden Guidelines are Effective Spring/Summer 2026.

Healthy Community Garden 2026 Agreement, Registration & Waiver

Agreement:

I have read and understand the Healthy Community Garden Guidelines and agree to abide by them. I may ask questions of the Co-Chairs for clarification of the guidelines. I understand that I can be asked to forfeit my garden plot for serious noncompliance with these guidelines.

Signature _____ Date _____

Registration:

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Number of plots which you are registering for:

_____ plot(s) \$35.00 each plot & plot #/abc or d _____ example= #1 a & b

Waiver

I, _____, hereby release the City of Long Prairie, First Baptist Church, and its elected officials, its appointed official and employees, and members of the organizational committee of the Healthy Community Gardens from any and all claims, demands, causes of action from any and all damages, including but not limited to property damage and bodily injury incurred by me and members of my family resulting from any and all activities associated with the participation in the Healthy Community Gardens project. I have read and I understand that I can be asked to forfeit my garden plot for serious noncompliance with the guidelines. I agree that my plot will be cleaned out by October 15, 2026.

(DATE)

(SIGNATURE)