

House of Hope Community Garden Schedule and General Information

OPENING DATE

The target date for opening is May 15, but due to weather & soil conditions, this may vary from year to year. Garden plots are officially open once payment is received.

Yearly Schedule

January 1 – January 31, Returning gardeners may reserve their previous garden plot. The garden committee will email and/or contact all previous year gardeners.

February 1 – February 28, New gardeners may reserve their garden plot.

March 1 – June 15, Gardeners may reserve additional unclaimed garden plots. First come, first served. Garden committee will email and/or contact registered gardeners.

Mid-May, Garden will open, depending on weather & soil conditions. Garden committee will email and/or contact registered gardeners.

June 16, Any unplanted gardens will be offered to waiting list gardeners.

July, August & September 1, Garden committee will inspect gardens for garden neglect.

Mid-October, Gardens will close, depending on weather & soil conditions. Garden committee to email and/or contact registered gardeners.

House of Hope Community Garden is located east of the church building at 4800 Boone Ave N., New Hope, MN 55428. The closest parking is at the northeast corner of the church parking lot.

For more information, contact Joe Brehmer at jbrehmer@comcast.net or 612-723-7920.

CLOSING DATE

The target date for closing is mid-October, but due to weather & soil conditions, this may vary from year to year. Households will be given ample time to clean up their plot and be notified when the garden plots will be officially closed.

END OF THE SEASON CLEANUP

Please remove all items from your plot at the end of the growing season. Plant material may be left

next to the compost bins at any time. Items not claimed will become the property of the community garden and reused, recycled or disposed of as needed.

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

All gardeners are encouraged to donate excess produce to local food shelves. The garden committee maintains extra garden plots for food shelf or internal purposes.

REGISTRATION

Priority is given to returning gardeners each new season. Through January, each household is allowed to reserve up to one garden plot that was reserved the previous season. Understanding the need to encourage new gardeners, only one garden plot per household will be allowed to be reserved in advance of March 1. From February 1 – February 28, new gardeners are allowed to reserve a garden plot. On March 1, all remaining garden plots will become available on a first come, first served basis with a limit of 2 per household. Each gardener must sign each of the following forms and will be assigned a plot # before any work in the garden can begin: -- Plot Registration -- Release of All Claims -- Rules, Terms and Conditions Contract

GARDEN CANCELLATIONS

If you choose not to use your garden plot, please contact the garden committee immediately so the plot may be reassigned and/or offered to the waiting list. If the plot is claimed by another gardener prior to June 15, your fee will be refunded. There will be NO refunds after June 15.

RENTAL PROVISIONS

Rental fees cover the costs for water, soil conditioning, tilling, composting, garden improvements and related items. No refunds will be given after June 15.

PLOT SIZE

The garden plots are approximately 11' x 11' with a 2' walkway on two sides of a plot and adjacent to two other plots.

GARDEN NEWS & INFORMATION

Email will be the preferred method of mass communication to all households regarding dates, deadlines, events, updates, etc. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your garden plot, please respond by email and/or call.

COMPOSTING & GARBAGE

Separate waste receptacles are provided for both trash & compostable materials. Please observe the differences so that additional sorting is not needed.

WATER & HOSES

Water spigots and hoses are provided and should be returned to storage areas. At least one set of spray nozzles will be provided at the beginning of the season. If a nozzle breaks or malfunctions, please notify the garden committee and they will be replaced.

TOOLS

A number of tools, hoses and watering equipment will be available in the tool storage areas for use. Gardeners are responsible for keeping the garden gates closed at all times and return all tools to the storage area.

WORK TIMES

Regularly scheduled work times are from sunrise to sunset.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Gardeners are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot. Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to water their plots. Garden plots should be cared for at least once a week. It is the gardener's responsibility to make prior arrangements if he or she is not able to care for

their plot in any given week. If any plot remains unattended for more than three weeks that plot is subject to reassignment. Gardeners may harvest vegetables and flowers from their garden only. The gardens may be photographed at any time for historical and improvement purposes. The Garden Committee is responsible for ensuring that the rules are followed at all times.

GARDENING PRACTICES

Chemical applications of herbicides (weed killers) and pesticides (bug killers) are not allowed. Compost and mulch may be available behind the garage during normal site hours (south of the garden site).

SAFETY & COURTESY

Due to the nature of this community garden, each household is asked to be respectful of other gardens, gardeners, children, visitors, wildlife, church grounds and residential neighbors. Do not allow vine crops to extend beyond the boundaries of your plot. Return hoses in a uniform manner to designated areas. Children are welcome and must be supervised. Disruptive pets, alcohol and illegal drugs are NOT allowed.

GARDEN NEGLECT & WEED CONTROL

If any garden has not been planted by June 15 and the owner has not made contact/provisions with the garden committee to extend the deadline, those gardens will be reassigned to those on the waiting list or will be designated for other use. The Garden committee will inspect all gardens to ensure compliance. Gardeners not performing maintenance will be notified to rectify the situation. Further non-compliance may result in the garden being tilled or mowed. The offending household will lose community gardening privileges for the following year. They will be allowed to return as a gardener after one (1) year.