

Itasca Community Garden

2023 Application/Agreement



The Garden is located at the University of Minnesota North Central Research and Outreach Center, 1861, East Highway 169, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. Garden coordination is managed through Get Fit Itasca at the YMCA, 400 River Road, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. For more information visit www.getfititasca.org/itasca-community-garden, or contact Get Fit Itasca at 218-327-8814. **To apply for a plot, complete the form on page 3 and return it, with payment, to Get Fit Itasca at the YMCA by May 1.** Plot assignments will be made by Get Fit Itasca, dependent on the UMN regulations at the time. We will let you know in May when the garden will be open for planting and mulch walking paths together, weather dependent. If, for any reason, the garden is unable to open for the 2023 season, your payment can be refunded or used towards the next gardening season.

The Community Garden will provide the following:

- ✓ 8'x10' Garden plot(s) tilled and prepared to grow produce and/or flowers for harvest by plot holders
- ✓ Irrigation system for whole garden
- ✓ Access to water for watering individual plots
- ✓ Access to general garden tools such as shovels, rakes, garden trugs
- ✓ Educational resources to assist new gardeners
- ✓ Compost area for disposal of garden waste
- ✓ Pre-season application of fertilizer (cow manure) tilled into the whole garden

If accepted as a community gardener, I will abide by the following Rules, Terms, and Conditions:

1. I understand there is a cost of \$15.00 for one plot + \$10 each additional plot due before I plant anything. Plot fees will offset continuing maintenance and repair costs, as well as replacement costs for lost or damaged tools. Some financial assistance is available upon request.
2. I will keep my contact information current and up-to-date with the Garden Coordinator so I will receive messages and information about the Garden throughout the growing season.
3. I will plant something in my garden plot by mid-June, and will clear my plot by Sunday, October 8 of all plant material and other garden items, leaving the plot as found in the spring.
4. I will not leave my plot unmaintained for any period of time exceeding one week without making arrangements for its care.
5. The garden is located on the premises of a research site of the University of MN. I understand that all gardeners are welcome in the area designated as community garden, but are not allowed onto other garden sites on the property.
6. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Garden Coordinator.
7. Maintenance of my garden plot is my sole responsibility. I will water (in addition to the irrigation provided) as needed, remove weeds promptly, control disease or insect infestations, properly remove contaminated plants, and harvest produce in a timely manner.
8. I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain plants within the limits of my plot (i.e. keep vines within your plot, trimming and training them to stay off the grass and neighboring plots), and plant in a manner that does not shade other plots from sun or water.
9. **Approved [by the garden coordinator]** fertilizers, insecticides, or weed killers may only be used in a way that will not affect other plots. Please try to keep any chemical use to a minimum.
10. I understand that the garden may have been treated with pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers in the past.
11. I will not grow illegal plants in the garden.

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12. I will keep trash and litter cleaned from the plot, as well as from adjacent pathways and fences.
13. I will sort and place all waste from my plot into compost, recyclables, and trash.
14. I will place diseased and insect-infested plants in plastic bags and remove them from the site.
15. All tools supplied by the Community Garden that are borrowed must be returned and secured in the storage area provided. I will respect the Garden's property and assets, use equipment and tools owned in common responsibly and treat them with care.
16. I will provide my own trellising and cages for tomatoes and other plants, and must remove and store them off-site at the end of the season.
17. I will harvest only my own crops.
18. I will participate in the regular cleanup and maintenance, as well as fall cleanup of the garden.
19. I will be respectful of other gardeners and the research site. I will not enter others' plots, and will not borrow or remove anything from plots other than my own.
20. I will not bring pets to the garden.
21. I understand that children of all ages are welcome, but must be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times.
22. I understand that gardeners are not permitted to smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, or use illegal drugs at the garden site.
23. I will not sell my produce on the premises.
24. I will work to keep the garden a happy, secure, and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.
25. I understand and willingly accept the inherent risks in gardening. I understand that use and misuse of gardening tools may result in injury. I am aware that soil and food-borne diseases, though rare, may be contracted through gardening or consuming undercooked food.
26. I understand that, as a participant in the Community Garden, I am a guest and that my privileges may be revoked in the event that I fail to comply with the terms of this Agreement. The following procedure will be initiated in the event of failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement:
 - a. The Garden Coordinator will issue a warning.
 - b. If no response or correction has been made within seven days of the initial warning, the Garden Coordinator will issue a final notice, indicating that gardening privileges and the plot(s) have been forfeited.
 - c. Application for another garden plot(s) may only be submitted after one year and reassignment will be at the discretion of the Garden Coordinator.
27. I understand, acknowledge and agree that I am solely responsible for my actions and conduct, and the actions and conduct of my family members and guests, while in the Community Garden and that neither the University of Minnesota North Central Research and Outreach Center (NC ROC) entities nor any of its directors, officers, employees, agents, lessors, affiliated companies or foundations have any liability to me or my guests for losses, damages, or costs incurred as a result of participation in, or entry onto the premises of, the Community Garden and I waive and release the aforementioned parties from any claims that I may have, whether based on tort, contract or otherwise, resulting there from.

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I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms, and conditions stated above for participation in the Itasca Community Garden.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Check here if number or email is already connected to the Itasca Community Garden on Remind

Please provide a cell phone number or e-mail address below **if not connected to Remind or you need to update your information with us.** We use Remind as a system to text or email gardeners important dates and information.

Phone: _____ (Circle one) Cell Home Work

Email Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

How many 8' x 10' plots would you like to use this year? 1 2 3 [Fee: \$15 + \$10 each additional plot]

Check here if you would like to request financial assistance.

Send signed agreement and payment to:

Get Fit Itasca, Attn: Itasca Community Garden, 400 River Rd, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Cash or check preferred (make checks payable to Get Fit Itasca)

The last day to sign up for plots is May 1st. Inquire with Get Fit Itasca after May 1st.

*If you have reserved garden plots, signed agreements and payments are **due by April 1st** to finalize getting them. After that, all unpaid plots will be open to fill as payments come in for the current year.*

Comment below if you wish to have plot(s) you have had in previous years or any specific area of the garden.

We will try to assign plots as requested, but plots are subject to a first come, first serve basis.

Check here if you wish to have an acknowledgement of receipt by mail. All others will get an email.

Acknowledgment of receipt for Itasca Community Garden Plots – filled out by Get Fit Itasca

Name: _____ Number of plot(s): _____

Agreement signed? Y / N Payment: _____

Get Fit Itasca signature: _____