

Policy: Registration

Draft Oct 26, 2022

The River Valley Area Community Gardens shall rent garden plots for non-commercial food production to people who live in the River Valley School District.

Residents outside the District shall be approved by the Board on an individual basis after all in-District applications have been accepted and the waiting list has been emptied..

Application / Registration for plots

The Registration Form, Gardener’s Guidelines and Gardener’s Agreement shall be reviewed and revised annually prior to being approved for distribution by the Board. The Registrar is responsible for presenting any revisions to all registration documents, policies and publicity.

Application forms shall be made available via email, social media and print copy as soon as all documents have been reviewed for changes and approved by the Board. Target date for distribution of forms for the upcoming garden season shall be not earlier than August 1 and not later than October 31-of the current gardening season.

Requests for Application Forms for the upcoming gardening season shall be accepted at any time but will only be distributed after Board approval of the documents

Gardeners are not considered fully registered and assigned a plot until application form have been completed, Gardener Agreements signed and returned to the Registrar and plot fees paid.

The Registrar shall keep copies of the application and the signed Gardeners Agreement.

Registration for gardeners will remain open until mid-June or until all plots are rented for the current season.

Waiting List

If all plots have been assigned, Gardeners applying for plots shall be placed on a waiting list.

Registrants placed on the waiting list from the prior growing season shall have priority for new plots before new registrants.

New Gardeners

The definition of new gardeners for this policy include those new to gardening and those experienced gardeners new to gardening at the RVACG.

New Gardeners may request application / registration forms at any time, but may not start planting until the registration process is complete.

The Board shall work with the new gardeners to ensure they have what they need for tools, mulch, fertilizer, equipment, etc. for a successful gardening season

Garden Buddies shall be available to help new gardeners navigate their first year gardening experience.

Returning Gardeners

Returning gardeners shall have priority to retain their plots for succeeding years.

Returning gardeners shall notify the Registrar of their intent to return to the Gardens and their intent to increase or decrease plot size at any time via email or written message but no later than December 31 of the current gardening year.

Returning gardeners shall complete a new application form and sign a Gardener's Agreement annually. Forms shall be returned to the Registrar no later than December 31 of the current gardening year..

Returning Gardeners shall be informed of any changes in the Gardeners Guidelines prior to signing the Gardener's Agreement.

Returning Gardeners shall pay plot fees any time between September 1 and December 31 of the current year. If circumstances prohibit gardeners from gardening in the succeeding year, refunds shall be granted. Decision should be made by May 1.

Returning gardeners may leave gardening equipment in their plot/s if fall or spring tilling is not requested. Any equipment that may fly away in winter winds needs to be weighted or anchored down.

Returning gardeners whose plots have out of control weeds may be asked to attend a weeding seminar before gardening in the succeeding year and may be requested to eliminate or downsize a plot until they can manage the weeds in one plot.

~~Returning gardeners shall be encouraged to provide newspapers and cardboard for mulching their plots as well as stakes and trellising equipment.~~