

Living Hope Bryan: Community Garden Ministry Guidelines

Rules and Expectations for the Community Garden

Gardens need lots of care and maintenance. We ask you to prayerfully consider whether or not you feel God calling you to this unique ministry in the church.

Those who wish to participate in the Community Garden will need to fill out a form. If plots are available, a member of the Garden Team will review the form and contact you to inform you of your assigned plot. If there are no plots available, a member of the Garden Team will add your name to a waitlist. You will be notified when a plot becomes available and given the option to accept or decline the plot.

In order for the Community Garden to thrive, we have developed guidelines and expectations for the garden. As part of being a blessing to the community, we will require that a portion of each gardener's harvest be given to local families in need or local ministries/organizations (Bryan Housing Authority; Twin City Mission, The Bridge Ministry; The Aggie BSM; B/CS Together). We want our church to remember that the garden is not only for our benefit, but for the benefit of those around us.

Below are the rules and expectations for each person (gardener) participating in the Community Garden:

- Gardeners will plant and maintain their garden plot between March 15th, 2021 and March 13th, 2022. If one month from acquiring your plot there has been no sign of activity (neglect of your plot), your plot will be forfeited to the next person on the waiting list.
- If a gardener must abandon their garden plot for any reason, they must promptly notify a member of the Garden Team.
- At least 10% of the harvest will given to local families in need or local ministries/organizations (Bryan Housing Authority; Twin City Mission, The Bridge Ministry; The Aggie BSM; B/CS Together). Please contact a member of the Garden team with any questions you may have.
- Use of pesticides/herbicides permitted as long as they are lawfully used for those purposes in accordance with label instructions. However, if you can take care of the issue without the use of pesticides/herbicides, that is encouraged.
- Gardens must be kept clean and well maintained:
 - a. The plot and area immediately surrounding it, including pathways between plots, must be kept free of weeds, invasive plants (such as mint), rotting vegetation and all other debris.
 - b. Gardeners must plant and keep all vegetation within their established plot.
- Gardeners will need to provide their own gardening tools and equipment to work their plot. Eventually there may be a storage shed with basic gardening instruments, but for the time being individual gardeners will need to make sure they have the necessary tools. There is no secure location currently to store personal gardening tools on the property.
- Gardeners will need to provide their own gardening hoses for the time being. Future irrigation plans are being explored but for now, please bring your own hose until told otherwise.
- Water spigots must be securely turned off after every use and hoses wrapped & secured.

- Tall crops are to be planted where they will not shade neighboring plots. No trees or permanent garden structures are allowed.
- Gardeners may only harvest from their own plots unless given permission by other gardeners.
- Garden waste materials (clippings, discarded weeds, dead plants, etc.) not used within the plot may be placed in the designated compost area.
- All trash must be removed from the garden by the gardener (do not interfere with other people's plots unless given permission from the gardener)
- All guests brought into the Community Garden are the responsibility of the gardener (do not let them interfere with other plots besides your own).
- Maintenance schedule: When it comes time for a gardener to pass on their plot to the next person in line, they are expected to clean up their plot before leaving. All active gardeners who are not previously engaged are expected to participate in the spring and fall cleanup of the Community Garden.
- No plants considered contraband under state or federal law are allowed within the Community Garden.
- Seed/plant type planted does not matter. You can plant non-organic, organic, hybrid, heirloom, etc. As long as it is not illegal in Texas.
- Vandalism/theft should be reported to a member of the Garden Team or by emailing info@livinghope.org.
- Gardeners who wish to return next year must notify a member of the Garden Team by December 1st, 2021.

All gardeners are expected to read and abide by these rules and expectations.

Planting Schedule

Planting schedule (will depend on what time and variety of plant you're growing). Since the garden is in zone 8b, this link (<https://garden.org/apps/calendar/?q=77803>) will take you to helpful website where you can figure out what you would like to plant and when in your plot.

Questions? Contact info@livinghope.org or a member of the Garden Team.

Updated March 5th, 2021.