

## **Albert Lea Community Garden Rules and Regulations**

1. All renters must submit a user agreement form each year for a plot, but returning gardeners will be given first preference and keep the same plot(s). All non-renewed plots will go open to the public the first Monday of April at 8am.
2. Two plot maximum per family to allow for more new interested gardeners.
3. If you decide not to use your plot, please contact the Recreation Department at 507-377-4370.
4. Gardeners may garden at their own convenience, seven days a week. Generally visit your plot at least once a week.
5. The gardens are intended for personal use only. Gardening for commercial purposes is not allowed.
6. The garden should be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.
7. Only access your lot via walkways and/or the grass. Do not drive into the garden area.
8. Pets are not allowed in the garden area.
9. Crops, plants, vines and vegetation must be contained within the boundaries of one's garden plot. Overlapping onto adjacent pathways or garden plots is prohibited. If your vines exceed your plot boundaries, they will be moved or removed.
10. Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbor's plants.
11. Gardeners must have something planted by May 31, and then maintain plantings during the entire growing season. If gardeners do not plant or maintain their plots 10 days after receiving notice to do so, the plot will be tilled and reassigned. There are no refunds on plot fees paid.
12. Gardeners must notify the City of Albert Lea Recreation Department in advance if they must abandon their plot.
13. Only approved fertilizers or insecticides may be used. Herbicides are prohibited.
14. Permanent structures, other than trellis or cages for vines, melons, and tomatoes are not allowed in the gardens. Temporary fencing and stakes must be placed within your assigned garden plot. No brightly colored fence is allowed.
15. Water can be used while you are at your plot, but not left running when you leave.
16. All garden plots must be cleared by October 15.