Urban Garden Rules and Regulations

Plot Size and Boundary Stakes
There are (3) different size garden plots to choose from:
- 13' x 14'
- 14' x 25'
- 14' x 60'

Each garden will be marked with wooden stakes and labeled with the plot number.

Reserving a Plot
Garden plots are on a first-come, first-serve reservation system and can be reserved at the Edgerton City Hall after January 1st of the current season. As a courtesy, current participants have from November 1st until December 31st to request to continue using their plot otherwise it will be available to the public on January 1st.

Only one garden plot per household is allowed so please pick your plot size accordingly. If garden plots are still available as of June 1st, current users may request an additional plot.

Any garden plots not signed up for by June 7th will be planted with plants for common use for garden users and/or for food pantry donations or will be planted with an annual cover crop.

Community Garden Opening Date
The garden will officially open the first Saturday of May. The gardens will not be open prior to this date. Please do not plant anything in the gardens prior to the opening as it may get tilled up.

Fencing
With the exception of plastic snow fencing, all other types of fencing will be allowed in the gardens to help deter animals from the area.

Pets
Pets are not allowed in the community gardens.

Parking
Parking for garden participants is only available in the garden area on the north side of Lyons St. There is no parking on the south side of Lyons St as it is private property.

Safety and Courtesy
Children must be supervised at all times by adults in the community gardens. If children are within the garden, they must stay within their own family's plot or on established paths. Do not enter or allow your children to enter other's garden plots for any reason.

Some areas around the garden site may be marked "No Trespassing". Please observe these signs. Gardeners and their children must not enter private property adjacent to garden sites.

Plant only within your garden plot. Do not allow vine crops to grow into garden paths or neighboring plots.

Walk only on walkways provided in the garden area and on your own plot. Anyone walking in someone else's plot is trespassing. Use designated paths to access your garden plot.

Anyone who vandalizes or steals from someone's garden plot will not be allowed to participate in the Urban Garden Program.

Garbage and Composting
There is no garbage pick-up at the garden site. All trash (containers, paper, etc) and other refuse MUST be taken with you. Plant materials should be deposited in the designated compost area.

Authorized People
All are welcome, but must obey any community garden rules that may pertain to them.

Water at Garden Site
Water is available at the garden site. The hand pump located at the rear of the gardens is available for use. Gardeners must supply their own bucket or watering container. The water from the hand pump is to be used for watering plants only. It is not to be used as drinking water.

Garden Plot Fertilizing and Mulching
Gardeners may apply organic (such as composted plants and manure) or chemical fertilizer (such as 10-10-10) to garden plots. Make sure that chemical fertilizer do not also contain pesticides, as these products are not allowed in the gardens. Follow application rates for commercial products carefully, as excess chemical fertilizers can burn plants and/or reduce seed germination. Straw, leaves and newspaper are other acceptable options. Plastic film may NOT be used as mulch because it interferes with maintenance. Be sure to cover newspapers with soil or leaf mulch to prevent it from blowing away. Gardeners may recycle plant material within their own garden plots, or use compost from the compost bin in the community garden. Do not bring household compost to your community garden plot, or deposit household materials in the compost bin.

Garden Neglect and Weed Control
Gardens and pathways must be kept free of weeds. Gardeners are responsible for weeding their gardens and the borders of the area. The garden is in public display and a neat garden appearance is important. Also, the fewer the weeds, the higher the potential yield. Weeds spread seeds to adjacent garden plots and cause problems for other gardeners. Hoeing and hard weeding to control weeds, as well as mulching is very important.

Gardeners need to maintain a clean-looking plot. Those who have neglected garden plots will be notified and given two weeks to remove weeds. If a gardener does not comply, the garden plot will be mowed, and the gardener will lose the community gardening privileges for the following year.

Soil Preparation
Garden lots will be tilled once prior to the opening of the garden. Additional tillage is the responsibility of the gardeners. Gardeners may use hand tools or gas-powered roto-tillers in the community garden within the opening and closing dates of the gardens. Gas powered tillers are only allowed to be used between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Pesticide
Pesticides are chemicals used to kill or repel pests. Pesticides include herbicides (which kill weeds), insecticides (which kill insects) and fungicides (which kill fungi).

Pesticides are poisonous and pose a threat to animals, plants, and insects beyond the target pest. They may also drift to neighboring gardening plots at an inconvenience to the other users of the community garden. For these reasons, insecticides and herbicide use in the community garden is strictly limited. Please contact the Public Works Director with questions regarding pesticide use.

Garden Cancellation
If you choose not to use your garden plot, please contact the City of Edgerton at 608-884-4811.

Donation of Excess Production
Gardeners are encouraged to donate excess production to the Edgerton Outreach or to other local food pantries.

Garden Closing Date
The community garden will close on the last Sunday of October. Gardeners are required to clean plots and place vegetation on the compost pile. If plots are not cleaned by November 15th, a charge may be invoiced to the user.