



**2025 community garden plot fee:**  
**\$15 for most plots**  
**\$20 for Roots and larger plots at Airport and Hill**

Garden Project's plot fee — significantly lower than the area market rate of approximately \$50 — along with donations from gardeners like you, allows us to purchase materials and supplies to support gardeners throughout the growing season.

#### Payment options

- **Scan the QR code** below to pay online.
- Call **(517) 853-7809** to pay via credit card.
- Mail a check payable to "Garden Project" to **P.O. Box 16224, Lansing, MI 48901**



## 2025 community garden expectations

### Maintain your plot.

- From opening day until closing day, keep your garden plot and all bordering pathways free from weeds, trash and obstacles like branches, stones and gardening equipment. Plan to dedicate 2-4 hours each week to your garden.
- Plant your garden by the planting deadline.
- Harvest in a timely manner. Ripe produce left in the garden may be donated to those in need.
- At the end of the season, remove all string, stakes, fencing and trash. This must be done before the garden closing date.
- If a plot is not planted by the planting deadline or is left untended for longer than two weeks during the season, it will be cover cropped or assigned to someone else.
- Gardeners who abandon their plots during the season or who fail to properly clean up their plots by the closing date will be assessed a \$50 fine per plot and will be restricted to one garden plot for the following season.
- **Please reach out to Garden Project if you need help or if your plans have changed and you need to forfeit your plot.**

### Respect other gardeners and garden plots.

#### Support your community garden.

- Do not walk through other plots or allow your family members/guests to walk through other plots.
- Do not harvest from other plots without permission. Garden theft will result in an immediate loss of gardening privileges for current and future seasons. Report vandalism, theft or unusual behavior to garden leadership members.
- Return all borrowed tools to the garden shed before you leave the garden each day. Tools should never be left outside overnight or when it is raining.
- Dogs are prohibited unless the dog is a certified service animal.
- Cigarettes, alcohol and drugs (including marijuana) are prohibited in the gardens.
- The use of organic gardening practices is encouraged.
- Follow rules specific to your garden.
- Participate in group workdays and other garden management tasks as needed. It takes a village to help a community garden thrive!

# 2025 community garden expectations, continued

## Pay your plot fees.

- **Plot fees must be paid before your plot can be gardened.**
- Plot fees are nonrefundable, except under special circumstances at Garden Project's discretion.

## Additional guidelines for U-till plots.

- No concrete, cement or permanent structures.
- No aggressive crops, including morning glory, sunchokes or mint.
- No trees or large woody plants.
- U-till plots cannot be located in the middle of a tilled garden.
- Temporarily tarping or covering for weed suppression is permitted.
- Gardeners are welcome to prepare their soil with whatever method they choose (e.x. hand hoe, digging fork, walk-behind rototiller or no-till practices with thick, organic mulches).

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## 2025 important garden dates

### Planting deadline

- Tilled plots: June 1
- U-till plots: Two weeks after garden opening date

### Plot checks

- June 9, 16, 23, 30
- July 14
- Aug. 11
- Sept. 2
- Oct. 6

### Garden closing deadline (tilled plots)

- Oct. 19

## Grow your own food with Garden Project!

There are nearly 90 community gardens in the Garden Project network, each with its own unique personality.

Some serve large refugee populations, others integrate school curriculum, some grow with the intent to donate and others are simply an opportunity for neighbors to gather together.

### Types of gardens

- **Grow-your-own gardens** give you the opportunity to eat, give away, donate, preserve or sell your harvest — it's your choice! You do the work; you reap the rewards.
- **Communal or donation gardens** give you the chance to give back and build community.

The registration form included in this newsletter is for the 17 Garden Project-managed gardens in our network.

Scan the QR code below to explore the other community gardens in our network with plots available and their own registration process.



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**Every season, garden and community is unique!** Please share your gardening season with us through social media or by texting photos to (517) 292-0012.