

2012 Policies and Rules PONCHA SPRINGS COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM



Herbicides, insecticides and fertilizers made from synthetic chemicals are not permitted.

COMMUNITY GARDEN CLUB: The Town's Community Garden Club will be considered the operating entity of the garden areas for the benefit of the Town's residents. Agreements with the Board of Trustees makes the CGC officers responsible for the establishment, operation, and funding of the community gardens.

PLOT MAINTENANCE: Plots must be reasonably maintained at all times. Gardens do not have to be picture perfect and absolutely weed free. Reasonable maintained means weeds are under control and produce is being harvested. Plants must not exceed the plot's boundaries. Low fences can be used to contain unruly crops. Plots must be cleared of all **annual** plants and soil should be turned by November 16. Do not expand your plot beyond the staked limits! Pathways are 4 to 5 feet wide!

PLASTIC USE: Please do not use any plastic that can blow away and cause a nuisance in the neighborhood. Remove plastic products from your plot at end of season.

PLOT NEGLECT: If you are unable to tend your plot for an extended period of time, please notify the Community Garden office at 719-539-6882. If a plot appears untended (weeds overgrown or un-harvested produce) you will receive a warning letter. You will have 14 days from the date of the letter to clean up your plot. If it is not cleaned up after 14 days, your plot will be reassigned and your plot fee and garden contents will be forfeited.

PATH MAINTENANCE and COMMON AREAS: Paths must be maintained on all sides of your plot. Paths must be maintained as weed free.

FENCES: Low, well maintained fences are permitted around a plot. The fences must be at least 1 foot and not greater than 3 feet in height. The fences must be entirely within the plot's boundaries. Barbed wire is prohibited. The base of the fence must be kept weeded.

TIRES, TREATED WOOD, and OTHER CONTAMINANTS: Tires, treated wood, and any other contaminants are not allowed.

WATER: Use of water should be controlled. Do not leave water on unattended. Hoses must be of a sound nature and not leak. Timers are not acceptable. Town makes no guarantee to ditch water availability.

TOOLS: The Town of Poncha Springs is not held responsible for theft of personal items. Some garden tools and/or hoses will be available in the storage shed. Anything stored in the shed or left out in the Garden is considered community property for all to use.

PERENNIALS: Most perennials are permitted.. Cane fruit (raspberries, blackberries, etc.) and fruit trees are not permitted in the individual garden plots. The Garden Club may choose to plant these type of items in the common areas.

SMOKING: Smoking and chewing tobacco is not permitted on the Community Garden property. Tobacco carries Tobacco Mosaic Virus which is a very lethal disease to tomato plants.

PETS: No pets are allowed in the garden. All garden areas are to be fenced and gates closed at all times.

MUSIC and NEIGHBORS: If you desire to listen to a radio, tape or CD, while gardening, please use headphones.

TRASH REMOVAL: One trash will be provided during the growing season. If not available, or if waste exceeds the can capacity, you must take the trash out of the garden yourself. Arrangements will be made to dispose/compost garden materials from fall clean-up. In order to be eligible to rent a garden plot for next year, clean up of your plot is required at the end of the growing season.(2nd weekend in November)

THEFT: The Town of Poncha Springs will not be held responsible for theft of any kind. If theft does occur, please contact Chaffee County Sheriffs office.

REFUND POLICY: If a garden plot is voluntarily relinquished and notification given to the Community Garden office by May 1, the plot will be reassigned and the plot fee minus a \$10.00 processing fee., will be refunded. No refunds will be given after May 1st. Un-rented plots will be made available to those on the waiting list.

SHARING and SELLING SURPLUS: Produce is to be grown for personal consumption and sharing only. We request that excess produce be donated to a local food bank, or shared with friends and neighbors. Produce may not be sold, except for fundraising efforts organized by the Community Garden, where all proceeds are dedicated to the Garden.

ANNUAL PLOT ASSIGNMENT and WAITING LIST: Prior year plot rental gives the renter priority in subsequent years. Until relinquished, the same plot is yours year after year. Rental of additional plots is acceptable after all Poncha residents on the waiting list have been offered the plot, and declined. A waiting list will be available at Town Hall starting January for plots unassigned the first week of May. Preference is given to new plot holders when plots are available.

INDEMNITY: A personal indemnity agreement releasing the Town of Poncha Springs from any liability for personal injuries occurring while in the Community Garden must be on file at the Town Hall prior to participating.

I have read and fully understand the above.

Participant's Name

Plot #

Participant's Signature

Date