



# FRANKLIN'S CORNER COMMUNITY GARDEN GARDENER'S AGREEMENT

## 2026 Growing Season

Franklin's Corner Community Garden is the first community garden built on City-owned property. Our use of this land depends on our ability to keep the garden and neighborhood relationships well maintained. The garden and surrounding property is managed by Worthy Garden Club and maintained entirely by volunteers, gardeners with plots, and supported by donations and sponsorships.

***The Franklin's Corner Community Garden will provide the following:***

- ✓ A garden plot to grow produce and/or flowers for harvest by plot holders
- ✓ Access to water for irrigation
- ✓ Compost bin and/or an area for disposal of garden waste
- ✓ A Garden Manager to guide you and plenty of new friends!

## PART 1: LEASE REQUIREMENTS, PAYMENT AND PLOT AGREEMENTS

### 1.1 Term

This term of this agreement is for the 2026 season. The agreement takes effect on the date it is acknowledged by the gardener and terminates on the last day of the gardening season: November 8th, 2026.

### 1.2 Fees and Securing a Plot

Fees are \$15 for an ADA-accessible half bed or \$25 for a full bed. Fees must be paid during registration to offset the cost of irrigation and are non-refundable and non-transferable. Eligible gardeners from the previous year are given preference but must acknowledge this agreement and pay registration fees by April 15th, 2026, to secure their plot. Registration requests from new gardeners living in the Larkspur and Orchard District areas are given secondary preference after April 15th, 2026. Any plots for which agreements and fees have not been received by April 27th, 2026, will be released to those on the waiting list with receipt of payment required prior to Opening Day. We will maintain a wait list throughout the season in case plots become available on or after Opening Day.



## 1.3 Choosing a Plot

Plots are assigned on a first come/first serve basis, with returning gardeners given preference. Garden plots are assigned to one person only and are not transferable. Others may garden at your site, but the responsibility for payment of fees, cleanup and other duties at the site will be the responsibility of the individual whose name is assigned to the plot. Reserving more than one garden plot per household is not permissible.

## 1.4 Start of Season

We ask that gardeners be present on Opening Day: May 9th, 2026. Please notify the Garden Manager at [community@worthygardenclub.org](mailto:community@worthygardenclub.org) if you are not able to attend opening day and we can make alternate arrangements. Irrigation will be turned on when the weather permits and an irrigation schedule will be posted at the garden toolshed. You must pay your plot fee, acknowledge this agreement and sign a liability waiver before Opening Day to begin gardening at Franklin's Corner Community Garden (FCCG).

## 1.5 Plot Maintenance Expectations

Starting Opening Day, gardeners are expected to maintain their plots, including adjacent aisles, throughout the growing season. Maintaining includes weeding, planting, watering, harvesting, and end of season clean-up. Weeds have been a significant problem in the past, so we ask that gardeners absolutely do not let weeds go to seed and remember to keep walkways around your plot weeded throughout the summer. There is information about weed identification in the toolshed binder.

Please contact the Garden Manager if you will be moving, taking an extended vacation, or are otherwise unable to maintain your plot for a period of at least two weeks. You are allowed to have someone look after your plot during this time, provided they sign a liability waiver. Waivers will be available throughout the season in the toolshed binder.

Failure to maintain your plot for more than two weeks will result in a warning, then expulsion if not remediated in a reasonable amount of time (See "Part Three: Warnings & Penalties"). Forfeited plots will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

## 1.6 Gardener Volunteer Requirements

FCCG gardeners, in coordination with Worthy Garden Club and Pollinator Pathway Bend volunteers, are expected to do their fair share of work to keep common areas and equipment tidy and in working order. Common areas include the garden entrance, the fence and fence perimeter, the shared perennial bed, the toolshed and landscaped areas outside the fence. Gardeners will volunteer at least one hour per month completing tasks such as weeding, mulching, turning the compost pile, picking up garbage, maintaining/sharpening tools, harvesting fruit, and seasonal cleanup. Youth participation is encouraged with adult guidance.



The Garden Manager will provide monthly maintenance updates, as well as a form to report your volunteer hours. You must make a good faith effort to complete required hours and report your hours throughout the season to remain eligible for a plot the following year.

## 1.7 Garden Work Parties

Gardeners are encouraged to work together on communal aspects of the garden, including during organized work parties that focus on maintaining FCCG shared spaces. Work parties will be held periodically throughout the year in compliance with federal, state, and local health guidelines; however, it is the gardener's responsibility to research proper gardening techniques.

## 1.8 End of Season

Plots must be cleaned up by Closing Day: November 8th, 2026. Gardeners who do not clean their assigned plot will become ineligible for a plot the following year.

Cleaned up means all weeds have been removed, dead plants are either removed or "chopped and dropped" neatly in the plot, the soil is raked and leveled, and all personal items are returned to the home of the gardener. Winter/cover crops are allowed, and gardeners are encouraged to cover their plot with a layer of mulch or compost to protect and enhance soil fertility. Irrigation will be blown out and turned off at the beginning of November.

# PART 2: GARDENING RULES

The following rules and regulations are in place so the FCCG garden can grow, provide a healthy community atmosphere and function as a pleasant place to garden. Gardeners are required to adhere to the terms of this agreement and any other applicable City of Bend policies and rules.

You will be required to forfeit your plot if you or anyone gardening your plot ignores garden rules. As outlined below, these are the conditions under which immediate plot forfeiture will occur:

- Bringing alcohol and illegal substances into the garden
- Transferring or subletting your plot without garden manager approval
- Growing illegal or regulated plants
- Ignoring or repeating a violation warning
- Acting in a threatening or abusive manner to other gardeners

## 2.1 General Rules

FCCG is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. The combination for the lock will be given only to approved gardeners and will be changed annually or as needed. Please do not share the combination with individuals who have not signed the liability waiver, and make sure the



gate is fully closed when you leave. Do not prop the gate open outside of organized work parties.

Gardeners will not make any permanent changes to the garden, such as altering the irrigation system or drastically changing the elevations, size or soil of the plot. Permanent structures, glass materials, solid roofs and walls are not allowed. Neither is the use of electric fencing, poured concrete for anchoring or materials screwed or nailed into the wood frame of your plot.

## 2.2 Common Areas and Shared Equipment

Keep pathways and common areas clear of weeds, large rocks, garden plants and other hazards, including tools and hoses (when not in use). This includes plants overhanging more than six inches from your plot. FCCG is an ADA-accessible garden, and pathways must be kept clear to provide access for all gardeners.

Return tools to the toolshed when not in use. Use of tools and equipment is at your own risk. We recommend wearing gloves, staying hydrated and working with adequate light to help prevent injury. Never store personal tools or materials (such as kneeling pads, stakes or tomato cages) in the toolshed and never take equipment or other shared items home.

The urban food forest (fruit trees) exterior of the community garden is for sharing with the entire neighborhood. Everyone will be allowed to harvest only what they can use for a single meal. Large scale canning projects will be excluded from harvesting from the food forest.

## 2.3 Organic Garden Practices

Gardeners agree to garden organically. This means synthetic fertilizers (like Miracle-Gro), pesticides, herbicides & rodenticides may not be applied. Gardeners are encouraged to use alternative methods for weed and pest control, such as companion planting, mulching and hand weeding. Compost applications and appropriate crop maintenance will help keep your plot healthy. Please inquire with the Garden Manager if you need additional help or resources.

## 2.4 Plant Do's and Don'ts

Do not plant trees or shrubs in your plot, or any tall crops (such as sunflowers and corn) that can shade surrounding plots. Gardeners need approval from the Garden Manager to plant shrubs in the shared perennial garden, and these shrubs will become property of the garden. Tall crops, herbaceous vines and perennial plants such as asparagus, rhubarb and desirable flowers are permitted in the shared perennial garden. Divide them as needed to manage their size.

Some desirable plants can be weedy, such as raspberries, blackberries, mint, morning glories and fennel. Please keep these plants one foot or more away from plot boundaries. Do not plant mint straight in the ground as it can become invasive. Plant in a pot (which can be sunk into the ground) and make sure runners do not root into surrounding soil. Do not let weedy plants go to seed.



Remove and do not grow any plants listed on the Deschutes County Invasive Plant List, [Noxious Weeds | City of Bend \(bendoregon.gov\)](https://bendoregon.gov/noxious-weeds).

## 2.5 Insects, Disease and Overripe Vegetables (see also "Compost and Trash")

Gardeners agree to keep the garden & garden edges free of diseased plants, insect-infested plants and over-ripe vegetables. Diseased and infected plants, as well as weeds that have gone to seed, must be removed from the garden and disposed of in yellow bags provided by the City. Healthy plant debris, seed-free weeds and weeds that can't reproduce via rhizomes can be placed in the compost tumbler.

## 2.6 Compost and Trash

Gardeners will sort all waste from their plot and adjoining paths into compost, recyclables and trash. Compost can be processed at the site; recyclables and large trash items must be taken off-site. There is a small trash can for small items in the toolshed. Please do not utilize the trash can provided by Bend Parks, which is for the trail system. If you're unsure of what does and doesn't belong in the compost tumbler, please ask the Garden Manager.

## 2.7 Soil Amendments and Mulching

You may apply organic compost, mulch or other soil amendments to your plot, but you are not permitted to remove existing soil. Upon request, the garden manager can arrange bulk compost or mulch orders. Organic mulches, such as compost, leaves and straw are highly recommended to conserve water and add nutrients to the soil.

Do not use hay, which may sprout on beds, or fresh manure, which may smell, contain weed seeds or pose sanitary issues. Composted manure is permitted. Don't bring in sand, gravel or rocks. These materials are difficult or impossible to remove later. Non-biodegradable mulches, such as stone, carpet, plastic weed cloth and artificial turf are prohibited.

## 2.8 Frost Protection

Row cover, plastic cold frames (no larger than 30" x 30" x 60") and simple trellis structures are permitted if they do not shade other gardens or block irrigation and are anchored to prevent blowing away. Do not use rocks from the surrounding landscape to anchor. The gardener supplies the materials and labor for non-permanent structures and is responsible for damages that may arise from misapplication or negligence of said materials.

## 2.9 Watering

FCCG will be managed for best practices in water conservation and plant health. Pop-up sprinklers will turn on 1-3 times per week (depending on the season/weather) and will run for 30-60 minutes. Long, infrequent waterings encourage deep root growth and drought resilience. The Garden Manager will post the current irrigation schedule for pop-up sprinklers on the toolshed whiteboard and will update as the schedule changes throughout the season.



Never access the irrigation control panel unless there is an emergency. Report emergencies and leaks to Garden Manager ASAP.

Gardeners are allowed to use on-site hoses for additional hand watering needs but are restricted to 5 minutes per plot per day and must follow regulations during a watering ban. Please help avoid water loss in the aisles and be considerate of other waiting gardeners. Shade cloth can help seedlings or other sensitive plants retain water during hot (90°F or more), sunny days.

Spigots must be shut off (handle down) after use, and hoses rolled up onto their holders. Please refrain from watering your garden with an open-ended hose. Overnight watering, unattended watering and sprinklers are not allowed.

## 2.10 Other Garden Plots and Neighboring Areas

Pick only the plants you are growing or have permission from the grower to pick. Stay out of other people's plots unless specifically invited. No gardener can give permission to anyone to go into anyone else's plot for any reason. Gardeners are expected to communicate with neighboring gardeners to work out weed or plant size issues and may contact the Garden Manager for assistance or other support.

Gardeners are not to use adjacent neighbor's lawn, and agree to take breaks, snack, or informally gather within the garden areas only. Whenever possible, gardeners are encouraged to walk, bike or to take the transit system to lessen the impact of additional vehicles in the neighborhood. Do not block access to driveways. Gardeners will not ask neighbors to provide use of telephones (except in emergencies) or restrooms and are reminded to use good personal safety practices when visiting FCCG. In the spirit of cooperation, all gardeners shall treat the garden, other gardeners, neighbors and visitors with respect and consideration.

## 2.11 Children, Pets and Misc Regulations

Children are welcome at the garden when accompanied and fully supervised by an adult. Do not let children step into other people's plots or climb up/jump off fences or trees. Please monitor their behavior and whereabouts at all times. FCCG is next to a busy intersection.

Dogs are allowed in the garden but should remain on leash under the owner's control at all times. Please remember that city ordinances apply to this campus. Do not allow dogs to urinate on trees or vegetation surrounding the garden area, and never let dogs into garden plots, as there can be serious disease potential from contact with dog feces. Pick up and dispose of dog poop immediately, preferably not in the toolshed garbage due to the smell.

Smoking, chewing tobacco, illegal or regulated substances and open flames are not allowed in or around the garden. Should you wish to listen to the radio, please use headphones so as not to disturb the tranquility at the garden. Vegetables from garden plots may not be sold for personal profit. Excess produce should be delivered to those in need.



Keep the Garden Manager advised of your current address and telephone number. Please notify them of any change in contact information by email at [community@worthygardenclub.org](mailto:community@worthygardenclub.org).

## PART 3: WARNINGS AND PENALTIES

If you fail to follow any of the above guidelines, the Garden Manager will contact you and give you a reasonable amount of time to correct the problem. If you do not respond or fail to correct the problem, your plot will be considered abandoned. Plantings will be removed from abandoned plots and the gardener will not be eligible to return the following year. Complaints, policies, and mediations are the responsibility of the community Garden Manager, who has the final say.



### **Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities & Language Assistance Services**

You can obtain this information in alternate formats such as Braille, electronic format, etc. Free language assistance services are also available. Please email [accessibility@bendoregon.gov](mailto:accessibility@bendoregon.gov) or call 541-693-2198. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1. All requests are subject to vendor processing times and should be submitted 48-72 hours in advance of events.

### **Servicios de asistencia lingüística e información sobre alojamiento para personas con discapacidad**

Puede obtener esta información en formatos alternativos como Braille, formato electrónico, etc. También disponemos de servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Póngase en contacto en correo electrónico [accessibility@bendoregon.gov](mailto:accessibility@bendoregon.gov) o número de teléfono 541-693-2198. Los usuarios del servicio de retransmisión deben marcar el 7-1-1. Por favor, envíe sus solicitudes con 48-72 horas de antelación al evento; todas las solicitudes están sujetas a los tiempos de procesamiento del proveedor.