

Block House Community Garden Contract & Gardening Guidelines

Block House Municipal Utility District

Garden Plot # _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Water Account: _____

Plot Size

4' x 8' - \$15 per year

4' x 10' - \$20 per year

Goal of the Community Garden:

Block House Municipal Utility District (the “*District*”) is committed to providing information and educational resources that promote sustainable gardening practices to encourage the responsible use of natural resources. The District’s goal in providing the community garden is to give individuals the opportunity to work together to produce an ecologically sound and natural garden.

Gardening Guidelines:

1. Organic gardening practices must be followed. No petrochemicals, fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides may be used.
2. Gardeners must keep their plot clean, free of weeds, and well-maintained. Gardeners must actively garden in their plot and are responsible for caring for the plot, watering, fertilizing, adding soil amendments, and removing dead/dying plants and rotting produce. Gardeners are responsible for maintaining the appearance of their plot and two feet of the bordering pathways, and for cleaning up after their use of any garden common areas.
3. If a gardener’s plot becomes unkempt at any time, a gardener may be given two weeks’ notice that the plot must be cleaned up. If the plot remains unkempt, the District may terminate the gardener’s right to use the plot and reassign it. Gardeners will receive a one-time courtesy notification only.
4. Water is available for gardeners. Gardeners are required to water their garden, and to do so responsibly. Gardeners shall not leave their plot unattended while watering and shall otherwise avoid wasting water. Plumbing damages should immediately be reported to the Block House MUD by contacting Crossroads Utility Services.
5. No plants may be taken from any plot but the gardener’s own.
6. No use of machinery without authorization from the subcommittee.
7. Produce must be harvested in a timely matter. If a gardener is unable to timely harvest produce, the gardener should notify the Block House Community Garden Subcommittee that the plot needs to be harvested and the produce donated to the local food bank. If produce is not timely harvested, the Block House MUD Community Garden Subcommittee may harvest and donate it unless otherwise requested by the gardener (i.e., saving seed).

8. Gardeners may not grow noxious or invasive plants that will interfere with other gardeners' enjoyment of their plot.
9. If the gardener can no longer garden the plot for any reason, the Block House MUD Community Garden Subcommittee should be notified.
10. Gardeners shall maintain the grounds by keeping litter picked up.
11. Gardeners must follow facility composting guidelines for what can be added to the compost bins and when the compost can be used to amend soil.
12. The gardener is encouraged to give at least 10% of the produce back to the community through a local food bank. Any produce donations are required to be recorded in the donation book in the shed.
13. Gardening equipment will be available for use only in the garden and should be used only for the purpose for which the tools are designed. Tools must be cleaned and returned to their proper place in the shed, and the gardener must close and lock the door after each use. Broken or damaged tools should be reported to the Block House MUD Community Garden Subcommittee. All supplies must be stored in the shed.
14. The garden gate and shed must remain locked at all times.
15. Gardeners may bring their children to the garden but should keep them focused on garden activities.
16. Tobacco plants or products are not allowed on site. Tobacco carries the Mosaic Virus, which is easily transmitted to other plants and kills them.
17. Any problems, vandalism, or damage should be reported to the Block House MUD Community Garden Subcommittee.
18. The community garden is open from sunrise to sunset to registered gardeners.

Length of Contract:

Rental term is from February 1st through January 31st each year regardless of the day the plot was leased.

Liability Release:

I/we, the undersigned, agree that the District does not, by the provision of the community garden facility, assume any responsibility or liability for a gardener's use of the facility. We waive any claim against the District for accidental injury, property damage, or death arising out of the use of the community garden, and will indemnify and hold harmless the District and its directors, affiliates, agents, employees, and consultants, whether paid or volunteer, from any liability claims, demands, and causes of action whatsoever arising out of participation in this and related activities, regardless of whether such claims, demands, or causes of action result from the negligence of any of the above persons or entities or from any other cause. We agree to hold harmless the garden manager and owners of the land for any liability, damage, loss, or claim that occurs in connection with use of the garden. We have read and agree to abide by the *Gardening Guidelines*. We agree to adhere to all Block House MUD Park Use rules and regulations, and understand that the failure to adhere to these guidelines and requirements may result in the loss of gardening privileges. We understand that only registered gardeners (and their children) who have signed this contract are authorized to work in the garden. If we are applying on behalf of our minor children, we represent that we are their legal guardians and we assume full responsibility for them and their compliance with all requirements.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For office use only:

Staff: _____ Date: _____

Paid \$ _____ by cash / credit / or check # _____ Receipt # _____