

OOCG RULES AND GUIDELINES

Overview

A community garden can build and strengthen the community, provide economic benefits, educate, increase social equity, and promote environmental stewardship. The primary goal of these rules and guidelines is to ensure an enjoyable experience for all. By signing this document you agree to abide by the rules and guidelines as outlined below.

Organic gardening

The use of **SYNTHETIC pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, fertilizers or genetically modified**

(GMO) seeds or starts are STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Soils and other amendments must be

organically labeled. The use of organic seeds and starts is recommended whenever possible.

Use the best quality ingredients that you can. If in doubt, please contact a board member.

Raised bed rental fees

1. Yearly rentals will commence on September 1st of each year. A rental fee of \$75 (\$50 as of Sept 1st 2017) must be received from returning gardeners prior to September 1st in order to retain your plot. New gardeners will be assigned beds on a first come first served basis.
2. If a renewal fee is past due by 30 days the use of the plot(s) will be forfeited.
3. The fee is non-refundable.
4. Oldsmar residents and those employed by a business residing in Oldsmar will have precedence when new beds become available.
5. A raised bed may be transferred to a family member if that family member completes an application.
6. Gardeners may rent a maximum of two beds when available.
7. For the 2016/2017 gardening season, bed rental/membership will be prorated thru September 1st, 2017.

Signature _____

Date _____

1. Pets other than service animals are not allowed in the garden.
2. Children are welcome in the garden with adult supervision.

Miscellaneous

1. Plants that are regulated or prohibited by federal or state laws are prohibited in the OOCG.
2. Trees, shrubs, mint, catnip, raspberries and other invasive plants are prohibited in the raised garden beds.
3. There are many sources for organic and non-GMO seeds. You can find them at Lowes, Home Depot, Ace Hardware, Whole Foods, Earth Origins Market and Baker Heirloom Seeds, among others. Organic starts and seeds can be purchased from Wilcox Nursery in Largo or Sweetwater Organic Community Farm in Tampa.

Prohibited plants and other items

1. Gardeners must maintain their garden beds. This includes planting, watering, removing weeds before they go to seed, and taking actions to reduce pests and disease.
2. Gardeners must keep plants within the confines of their assigned beds in order to not interfere with the maintenance of the aisles. Excessively tall plants that will unduly shade adjacent plots will be prohibited.
3. If the gardener cannot maintain their plot due to hardship, the board of directors must be notified. Help is available from your fellow gardeners.
4. If the gardener does not follow these guidelines, the gardener's participation may be forfeited with or without notice.
5. We are all here to help one another enjoy the gardening experience so be aware of how your activities impact other gardeners and those doing maintenance.

Maintenance of individual garden beds