



Garden District Neighborhood Association
 P.O. Box 70876, Milwaukee, WI 53207
 Telephone: (414) 379-2450
 Email: dawn@milwaukeegdna.com or jdriegel@msn.com
 Website: www.milwaukeegdna.com

Garden District 2026 Rental Garden Plot Registration

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip Code: _____

Phone: Cell: _____ Home: _____ Email: _____

Car Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ License Plate#: _____

Did you have a plot last year? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, do you want the same plot? ___ Yes ___ No

If you do not want the same plot or are a new gardener, what is your preference for your plot?

	Organic (east side)	Conventional (west side)
Raised 4'x16' (two 4'x8'boxes)		
In-Ground 20'x20'		
Inclusive Garden Raised Bed – Organic Only 70"Lx30"Wx31"H		The 5 beds are intended to provide an option for those with mobility needs.

Rental Fee: A yearly plot rental fee of \$35 is due for new and returning gardeners with the applications. A clean-up deposit of \$25 (plus the \$35 rental fee) is due from new gardeners before a plot will be assigned.

- The rental fee will go toward water, expenses and improvements of the Rental Garden.
- If you are not returning next year, the clean-up deposit will be returned after you have removed all of your plants, weeds, and personal belongings from your plot. This must be done by 11/1/2026 or you will forfeit your deposit. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- If you will be returning next year, \$35 must be paid by 11/1/2026, and your deposit will rollover for the next year. You can leave mulch and grass, secured fencing, climbers, and secured weed barriers (i.e., landscape fabric and burlap). If you are unable to pay by November 1, please make arrangements. We will hold your spot but if no payment is made and we do not hear from you, your plot will be released 4/1/2026.

Planting Deadline: June 15th

- If there is no evidence of activity at your garden by June 15th, a garden committee member will call you. If no action is taken, you will forfeit fee/cleanup deposit (see Garden Rules Page 4).

ARE YOU OR YOUR SPOUSE A VETERAN? YES _____ NO _____

I have read the Rental Garden Rules and understand that failure to meet the guidelines will result in loss of clean-up deposit fees and gardening privileges. (Complete and return pages 1-3 of this form)

Signature (s): _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Checks should be made payable to Garden District Neighborhood Association and mailed to:

Garden District Rental Garden
Attn: Dawn Riegel
P.O. Box 70876
Milwaukee, WI 53207

or dropped off in newspaper box at:
3914 S. 3rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Release of All Claims

I, _____

am a participant in the Rental Garden. As a condition of being allowed to participate in the Rental Garden, I agree to the following:

1. I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through participation in the Rental Garden, and assume any expenses and liabilities I incur in the event of an accident, illness, or other incapacity. If I have had any questions about the Rental Garden, its nature, risks, or hazards, I have contacted the garden coordinator and discussed those questions with him/her to my satisfaction.
2. In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the Rental Garden, I, for myself, my executors, administrators, agents and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge the Garden District Neighborhood Association, Garden Committee, Garden Coordinator, volunteers, other gardeners, and the cooperating landowner from all claims of damages, demands, and any actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of my participation in this activity. I understand that this Release means that, among other things, I am giving up my right to sue for any such losses, damages, injury, or costs that I may incur.

I represent and certify that my true age is either 18 years old or, if I am under 18 years old on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this form. I have read this entire Release, fully understand it, and I agree to be legally bound by it.

Participant's Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Participant's Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18) _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

All individuals intending to garden in your raised bed or in-ground plot must sign Release form.

Rental Garden Maintenance/Volunteer Opportunities

We all share the responsibility of maintaining the garden community, including our individual plots as well as the surrounding perennial beds and property.

Requirements:

- Pull weeds around your bed/plot.
- Two hours (per plot) of volunteer time for general garden maintenance. These hours can be fulfilled by attending Volunteer Garden Gatherings (listed below) or helping with garden-sponsored community events (notifications sent throughout the year).

Volunteer Garden Gatherings are a time to socialize with other gardeners and help with garden tasks, which may include planting, mulching, site and path maintenance, grass cutting/trimming, and composting.

Please sign up for at least one day to help keep these gardens a success:

Every 3rd Tuesday – 6-8 PM

April 21 _____

May 19 _____

June 16 _____

July 21 _____

Aug. 18 _____

Sept. 15 _____

Additional Opportunities:

Sunday, April 26 - noon-2 - Spring clean-up _____

Sunday, November 1 – noon-2 – Fall clean-up _____

(the clean-up dates are weather dependent and may be rescheduled)

Ongoing Maintenance - Indicate your interest:

Compost _____ Berms _____

Path Maintenance _____ Building _____

Butterfly Gardens _____

Grass Cutting: _____ Grass Trimming: _____

Revitalizing the Garden Committee and scheduling speakers and meetings _____

Please check the GDNA website throughout the year for more volunteer opportunities:
www.milwaukeeegdna.com or check Garden District Community Gardens Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/GardenDistrictCommunityGarden

Please mark dates for which you have signed up on your calendar. We do email reminders closer to the date and understand that things may change, but having an idea of how many volunteers we may have helps for planning purposes.

****Complete and return the first 3 pages of this application.
Keep the following pages (Rules and Regulations) for your
reference.***

KEEP THESE LAST 2 PAGES FOR REFERENCE

Garden District Rental Garden Rules and Regulations

Ensuring an enjoyable gardening experience for all of the Garden Community is the primary goal of these rules and responsibilities. For that reason, please observe these rules and be a good neighbor. This is a living document and may change as needed.

- Coordinator: Dawn Riegel – 414-379-2450 or dawn@milwaukeeegna.com or jdriegel@msn.com
Please check with the garden coordinator for a map showing where your plot is, as well as any information concerning the Garden – problems, events, information, and notices.
- Plot Reservation: Each gardener must apply each year for a plot. Returning gardeners will be given first preference and permitted to keep their plot if they wish. No more than 2 plots or bed per person.
 - If you decide not to use your plot, please contact the coordinator so it may be reassigned to someone on the waiting list. **If there is no evidence of activity at your plot by June 15th, you will forfeit your plot and privileges as well as your rental fee and clean-up deposit.**
- Requirements:
 - Release of All Claims form: Each gardener/individual planning to garden in your plot must sign the release form.
 - All gardeners are expected to volunteer a minimum of 2 hours per plot per season. There are multiple opportunities (Tuesday Garden Gatherings, installation/repair of raised beds, community events) to fulfill this requirement.
- Restrictions:
 - Please do not plant mint, catnip, comfrey, raspberries or other invasive plants.
 - Do not use pesticides, fertilizers, or weed repellents that will in any way affect other plots.
 - If in the organic gardening area, please follow all organic practices with regards to pesticides, fertilizer, and weed control.
 - Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbor's plants.
 - Please do not use brightly colored fencing (such as orange construction fence) around your plot. Other fencing is permitted but it should not block paths.
 - Do not pick from other gardeners' plots even if you think they have neglected it.
 - No pets in the Garden.
 - Do not drive into the garden area.
- Maintenance: Generally visit your plot at least once a week, more often if the season is very dry. If you are unable to care for your plot for a time due to illness/injury or vacation, please ask a fellow gardener or the coordinator to help keep up with weeding and harvesting.
 - Biodegradable mulch such as compost, leaves, straw, and hay are encouraged. Carpeting mulch is not allowed. Wood chips, burlap, cardboard, and landscape fabric are permitted for weed control. **Do not leave landscape fabric buried in your garden if you are not returning to garden. If you are returning to the same garden, you may cover the ground with a tarp or opaque plastic sheet to prevent weed growth during the off-season.**
 - Stakes that mark your plot's corners and your plot number must be left in place.

- **If your plot is overgrown with weeds, you will receive a warning.** After one week of no action, your plot may be cleared and reassigned.
- **Water:** The water bins are filled on a regular basis but may run out during dry spells. When water is not available, it is your responsibility for bringing in your own water.
- **Safety:** The Garden should be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything or do anything that will compromise the safety of the Garden.
- **Children:** Teach your children to respect others' plots and not to waste water.
- **Restroom facilities are not provided:** Please plan accordingly and respect our neighbor's properties.
- **Surplus produce:** If you have a surplus of produce you wish to donate to local food pantries, please place items in the wooden bin on the northeast corner of the gardens (sidewalk of Howard Ave.) or contact Dawn.
- **Compost:** We do not compost or provide compost bins for the raised beds. Please consider composting weeds and plant debris at home. We can provide information on compost group or business if needed. (See Weeds).
- **Weeds:** We urge gardeners to deadhead any flowering weeds in their garden and disposing of those at the City Self-Help Center or other appropriate venue. Weed and plant stalks and stems can be placed in the weed bin that is managed by our volunteers who haul the debris to the City Self-Help Center at considerable cost. Again, please consider composting at home or joining a compost group or business if possible.
- **Enforcement:** The Garden's steering committee has the duty of enforcing rules and resolving conflicts, including refusing a plot to a gardener or dismissing a current gardener.

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 Path Maintenance _____ Building _____
 Butterfly Gardens _____
 Grass Cutting: _____ Grass Trimming: _____
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