

## Gardener Guidelines for 2018

The following guidelines have been established by the Mokena Community Park District. The Park District requests that gardeners assume certain responsibilities for their garden plot(s). Please read the guidelines, and direct any questions to Mary Beth Windberg at (708) 390-2409 or [info@mokenapark.com](mailto:info@mokenapark.com).

1. All gardeners are required to complete an application form. The application fee is due at registration. To qualify for resident rate, gardener must prove current Mokena Community Park District residency.
2. A limited number of Raised Garden Beds will be offered to individuals with special needs. Please indicate on your registration form if you are requesting a Raised Bed due to special needs. First come, first serve while supplies last.
3. All plots must be planted by June 1. The Park District will reassign unplanted plots, without refund, after this date.
4. Before planting, check the numbered stake to be certain you are planting in the correct plot.
5. Limited Parking is located at the garden plot site. Additional parking can be found in the splash park/dog park parking lot, or across the street in the Oaks Recreation & Fitness Center parking lot. Motorized vehicles may only be used on designated roadways, driveways, and parking lots. Parking or driving motorized vehicles on walking paths, restricted access drives, lawn or landscaped areas, or garden pathways is strictly forbidden.
6. All gardeners are responsible for keeping pathways around their plot clear.
7. Pathways must remain intact. Removal of, or planting on pathways is prohibited.
8. **The use of synthetic or chemical pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides is not permitted in the garden.**
9. **Weed Policy and Consequences**
  - a. Participating in a community garden affords you an opportunity and a responsibility to your fellow gardeners. In order to ensure good gardening practices, plots must be reasonably maintained. Reasonably maintained means weeds under control (less than 6" tall) and plants regularly cared for, watered, and harvested.
  - b. Plants must not exceed plot boundaries.
  - c. The Park District has the right to mow the entire plot if the plot is not maintained after a warning is issued. Gardeners will have one week to weed before the plot is mowed and reassigned. No refunds.
  - d. Weeds compete with other plants in your garden and can quickly become invasive. If weeds are left to go to seed they will affect neighboring gardens as well. Gardeners are responsible for keeping their plot weed-free.

10. Plant tall plants and vines within the boundaries of your plot where they will not interfere in your neighbor's plot.
11. Put weeds and dead plants from your plot in the mulch area. Do not leave weeds or other debris in the pathway.
12. Do not apply anything to, or pick from another person's plot without his/her express approval.
13. Unattended watering is not permitted. Make sure all faucets are off when leaving the garden.
14. The following are not permitted:
  - a. Planting of illegal plants
  - b. Smoking (tobacco can transmit a virus to plants and cigarette butts are full of toxins)
  - c. Chewing tobacco (tobacco can transmit a virus to plants and cigarette butts are full of toxins)
  - d. Pets
  - e. Drugs
  - f. Alcohol
  - g. Boom Boxes/Amplified sound
  - h. Fires/Grilling
  - i. Offensive and profane language
  - j. Bird feeders
  - k. Hoses
15. Children are welcome to help with your garden, but are not to be left unattended.
16. Garden only during daylight hours
17. Report theft, vandalism, damage, or other acts of destruction or loss to the Administration Office at (708) 390-2401. In case of emergency, call 911.
18. The Mokena Park District is not responsible for costs related to individual garden plots theft, vandalism, or any other acts of destruction or loss, including loss due to wildlife. The Park District makes no guarantees for water drainage, drought, or growth.
19. At the end of the gardening season, all dead plants and non-plant material must be removed and disposed of properly. All gardens should be left neat and tidy. If your garden is not cleaned up by October 31, you will forfeit your security deposit, and gardening privileges for the next season.
20. If you discontinue use of your garden plot at any time during the growing season, please let us know as soon as possible so that your plot can be reassigned.
21. Violation of gardener guidelines: You will be contacted by phone or email. You will then have one week to address the issue. Failure to remedy the violation may result in loss of gardening privileges and security deposit.