

# Skokie Park District

## Garden Plots 2025

### GUIDELINES

Revised March 17, 2025

- All Plots are 20 x 20 feet. Gardeners are requested to plant their crops/produce within the boundaries of their assigned plot. Please do not extend your fencing past the plot stake/marker. You are infringing on the aisles and also on another gardener's plot.
- Gardeners may fence off their assigned garden plot(s). Please do not extend your fencing past the plot stake/marker. You are infringing on the aisles and also on another gardener's plot.
- However, gardeners are advised not to leave gardening tools in their plot area unattended as Garden Park is not a secured area.
- Garden Plot(s) will be available for planting on April 1, 2025, weather permitting. All garden plots will be plowed, staked, numbered and ready for planting.
- Please be advised that any garden plot (s) that has/have not been planted by May 15, 2025 will be forfeited and reassigned. The assigned gardener will be notified and must respond within 48 hours. Failure to do so will result in the reassignment of the garden plot and no refund will be issued.
- Water is available for use at no additional charge and will be available depending on weather conditions. Please be advised that all gardeners will be required to provide their own hoses or bucket for water usage. Please be sure to keep your garden hoses within your garden plot area when not in use.
- All garden hoses MUST be kept out of the walkways in order for Park Services to properly maintain/mow and for the safety of fellow gardeners. Any garden hoses found on the walkways will be removed.
- At no time should any sprinkler or garden hoses be left unattended. All hoses should be attended to by the gardener when water is running.
- Absolutely no Styrofoam cups, plastic coverings, carpeting or landscape fabric are allowed anywhere in the garden plot area. These materials get caught in the tillers and mowers causing a disruption in the maintenance provided. It is strongly encouraged that gardeners please do your best to use biodegradable/earth friendly materials in your gardening.
- Gardeners are encouraged to maintain their plots and keep them weed-free. Gardeners are expected to weed and maintain their entire plot area. Please do not leave weeds or any other trash in the walkways/aisles.

- Gardeners may not plant outside or beyond the boundaries of their assigned plot (in the pedestrian walkways/aisles.) Any planting outside of the assigned plot will be removed.
- Due to the nature of this program, we are unable to secure Garden Park against vandalism. Although loss of vegetation is usually kept to a minimum, each gardener should be aware of this potential situation. The Skokie Park District will not be responsible for theft, damage, vandalism or any other acts of destruction, loss or irresponsibility.
- The use of chemically enhanced fertilizers or pesticides is forbidden. Additionally, the Skokie Park District reserves the right to remove any questionable vegetation.
- Skokie Park District Clean-up of Garden Park begins on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Please be sure to remove all belongings and produce by this time.
- Failure to follow the policies set forth may result in the loss of your assigned garden plot for the following gardening year.

### **Gardening Tips**

- Mulch your garden to help control weeds, save moisture and prevent the soil temperature from rising too high. Mulching also provides a protective covering for the soil.
- Arrange your crops properly to get the most out of your gardening experience.
- Be considerate of the gardener next to you when planting taller plants which tend to shade smaller plants. Be sure to plant tall plants to one side or the back of your plot area.
- Vine plants should be planted away from the walkways/aisles for better protection from mowers or people walking through the garden area.

### **Important Dates to Remember**

- April 1, 2025 – Weather permitting, you may begin planting on your plot.
- May 15, 2025 – Your garden plot must be started or it will be forfeited and reassigned. The assigned gardener will be notified and must respond within 48 hours. Failure to do so will result in the reassignment of the garden plot and no refund will be issued.
- April 1 through October 31, 2025 – Happy Gardening!
- October 31, 2025 – Last day to remove any produce or belongings from your garden plot.
- November 1, 2025 – The Skokie Park District's Park Services Department will begin clean-up of the garden plots in Garden Park.

**Happy Gardening!**