

Mueller Community Gardens
John Gaines Park
MuellerAustinOnline.com

RULES

Community gardens are collaborative projects created by members of the community who share both the maintenance and rewards of the garden. Plot holders are expected to be neighborly and considerate of others at all times.

- The **Community Gardens are open daily from 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.** Hours are subject to change without notice.
- This is an **Organic Garden**. The community garden strives to follow organic guidelines. Only organic soil amendments, fertilizers, nutrients, and pest controls may be used in the garden. For fertilizers, soil amendments, pesticides, and herbicides, use only products approved for organic gardens. Check the labels when in doubt.
- **There is no loading zone and parking is limited.** Please exercise caution and courtesy when parking in the surrounding neighborhood. Blocking the public right of way is not allowed at any time, even to load or unload.
- **No Pets.** Pets are not allowed within the fenced garden area.
- **No Smoking.** Smoking, chewing tobacco, and e-cigarettes are prohibited. No alcohol, illegal drugs or firearms are allowed.
- **Garden at your own risk.** By entering the community gardens, you agree to assume responsibility for and release the Mueller Master Community Association, Associa Hill Country, owners, residents, any management personnel hired by the Association, and Catellus Austin, LLC and its officers, directors, and employees from any claims, demands, debts, actions, causes of action, suits, personal injury, property damage, agreements, obligations, defenses, offsets and liabilities for or by reason of any matter, cause or thing whatsoever occurring in connection with the community gardens.
- **No outside trash is allowed.** No trash from outside the community garden may be brought into the garden. Each plot holder is responsible for disposal of trash. Do not place any trash in common areas, roadways, or in plots.
- **No unattended watering.** No water timers or sprinklers are allowed. Hand watering should take into account wind and temperatures to ensure as little waste as possible.
- **Plot holders supply their own hoses.** Hoses in use on the site belong to the plot holders, not the garden. Repairs and replacements are the responsibility of the plot holders using them. When hoses are not being used, they should be rolled and stored out of walkways.
- **Plot holders supply their own tools.** Tools can only be used for the purpose for which they were intended. Plot holders should use equipment in a responsible manner.

- **Garden Shed.** Tools and hoses belonging to plot holders may be stored in the garden shed if they are put away neatly and are intended to be shared. The Garden shed lock combination will be changed routinely and the new combination will be sent via email to registered plot holders. Please do not share this information with others.
- **Organic, compostable material is to be placed in the composting area.** Compost materials from outside the gardens cannot be put in the composting area. Compost and mulch is the responsibility of the plot holders and the Association will not regularly provide compost or mulch although may from time to time.
- **All plot holders are responsible for the maintenance of the common areas.** This includes the shed, walkways, shade pavilion, etc.
- **Plot holders must keep their plot in an attractive manner** including but not limited to:
 - Vegetables and/or fruits should be harvested regularly;
 - Plots should be kept free of weeds, especially bindweed, Johnson grass, and Bermuda grass;
 - Temporary structures should not shade a neighbor's plot;
 - Plot holders are expected to garden at all times of the year;
 - Plants should be removed at the end of their productive life;
 - Plants from the Mueller Do Not Plant List are prohibited;
 - No trees or large cacti may be planted;
 - No permanent structures may be placed on the plot.
- **The following items are prohibited:**
 - Chemically treated lumber, treated wood usually known as "treated landscape timbers," and railroad ties;
 - Coastal Bermuda hay is not allowed for mulching due to the chance of weed killer being present (Alfalfa hay is not at risk for this chemical and is a safe alternative.)
- **Birdbaths are permitted** to attract birds away from plants. If you have a birdbath, you must monitor it and change the water frequently. If mosquitoes are found breeding then you will be asked to remove it.
- **Organic pest control methods may be used.** The Mueller Integrated Pest Management Plan (available online at www.MuellerAustinOnline.com) must be followed at all times which requires using the least toxic, effective method.
 - Ants are to be expected in a garden. Only organic methods can be used to try to control them in your plot. Report any ants in the common areas to communitygardens@muelleraustinonline.com.
 - The community garden maintenance will follow the City of Austin recommendations for controlling mosquitoes.
- **Violations.** Plot holders that violate the rules may have their plot revoked without a refund of their fees or deposit. Final determination of non-compliance will be made by the Mueller Master Community Association Board of Directors.