

# Pot of Gold Community Garden

## Garden Guidelines

The Community Garden at Washington Park North is a joint project of Covenant Community Church, Washington Park North Cemetery, Purdue Cooperative Extension, and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful.

The purpose of the garden is (1) to provide a garden space to those families and individuals who desire or need land for growing vegetable, flowers, and fruit (2) to provide a gathering space and a friendly atmosphere to help “grow” community through learning and the cooperative spirit (3) to create a community model for stewarding the land and caring for the environment.

### Preliminary guidelines for participation in the Pot of Gold Community Garden

There are two different types of plots available for rent, called “annual” and “perennial” plots for the purpose of this community garden. Annual plots will be rototilled each spring and disked in the fall as arranged by the steering committee. Perennial plots (which may also have annuals planted in them), are available for year round planting of fruit, like raspberries and strawberries, and vegetables such as asparagus and rhubarb. Soil preparation in the perennial plot is the responsibility of the gardener.

1. Plots are 15'x15' and are available on a first come first-served basis
2. Annual plots are east of the main pathway and will be rototilled and staked off once each spring by April 30<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting)
3. Gardeners should plant by June 20, otherwise they may be asked, by the steering committee, to give up their plot to anyone on the waiting list.
4. Plot renewal notices will be sent in late winter. Plots will be reassigned to previous holders, if confirmed before March.

### General Maintenance

1. All garden maintenance tasks within the boundaries of individual plots are the responsibility of the plot-holder, including weeding, watering, harvesting, and plant removal (at season's end).
2. Gardeners may plant vegetables, flowers, fruit, or herbs in their garden plots.

3. Gardener may use typical garden structures to support their crops, such as trellises, stakes, etc. at their expense. Chicken wire or hardware cloth fences may be erected around the edges of the plots, to keep out rabbits, also at the plot holder's expense. These materials should be in good and usable condition.
4. Annual plots should be clear of stakes, fencing, and other garden structures by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Dead plants should also be cut-off at ground level and chopped for the community compost pile.
5. Perennial plots should be clear of stakes and other structures not used on a year-round basis. Dead plants should be cleared by October 31, to provide as neat and tidy an appearance as possible.
6. Plots overcome by weeds will be turned over to the Garden steering committee after two phone calls or one letter, to the plot holder.
7. Gardeners will also be expected to help maintain the weeds around the edges of their plots and in the walking path around their plot.
8. Where possible, gardeners are asked to participate in community garden work days, such as "ground breaking", in the spring and "Clean up" in the fall.
9. "Organic" or natural gardening techniques ONLY, will be allowed in the garden. This prevents the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers and encourages the improvement of the soil with organic matter, such as rotted manure, compost, and peat moss.
10. Water is available from faucets in the walkways. Any plot will be within reach of a faucet by use of 100 foot of garden hose. Otherwise you will need to bring watering cans and other containers to transport water to your garden.
11. Gardeners will be responsible for bringing their own tools. Tools should not be left in the garden overnight or unattended.

#### **Hours of Operation**

**The community garden is open from 8a.m. -7p.m. every day**

**Please park along the gravel road and enter the garden via the pathway. Please do not walk through other gardeners plots to get to you garden.**

**Be respectful of visitors to the cemetery by keeping noise levels to a minimum at all times**