

Community Gardens Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can join a Garden Group?

All committed year-round gardeners are called to join a Community Garden in an area near them.

2. Which parks are currently approved for Community Gardens?

Click [HERE](#) for a list of approved park space designated for Community Gardens.

3. How do I join a Garden Group as an individual applicant?

Individual applicants must inquire with the garden in question to determine if single plots are available. Reach out to Parks & Recreation (404 371 3711) to make initial contact with the park of interest.

4. What fees are associated with starting a Garden Group?

There is a \$100 start –up fee for new gardens only.

5. How are Garden Coordinators selected?

Garden Coordinators are selected on a volunteer-basis. For more information about the Garden Manager role, view section 4.1 of the Community Gardens Manual.

6. How would other Garden Group members get in touch with the Primary and Alternate contacts for the garden?

Upon application and mandatory annual renewals of Garden Group applications, Primary and Alternate contacts are determined and shared amongst the Garden Group.

7. Are there any fees following initial fees for starting/maintaining a Garden Group?

Yes, however those fees vary by Garden Group. Additional fees are determined by needed supplies for the Garden Group to function. In addition to supply fees, Garden Group members are in charge of paying for water service through DeKalb's Watershed Department.

8. How long does it take for a permit to be approved for a new garden site?

Permits are approved on a rolling basis after the application has been completed and sent in. New garden sites must be on the list of approved Community Gardens sites, application fee submitted, liability/indemnification agreement and acknowledgement of garden manual waivers signed by all Garden Group members , bank account created (for managing garden/plot fees), and planting start-date announced.

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9. Are dogs or other animals allowed in the garden space?

Dogs are allowed and must be on a leash [Code Section 5-4, 5-5], however Garden Groups can collectively establish rules prohibiting pets in the garden space.

No animals may reside in the garden.

No hoofed animals [Code Section 19-31].

Beekeeping and live-stock must have county approval.

10. How do Garden Groups pay for water service?

Garden Groups are required to set up an account with the Watershed Department. The Parks & Recreation department can assist the Garden Group with finding out the feasibility of the installation of rain barrels to conserve resources.

11. Are Community Gardens organic?

No chemical pest control measures, including pesticides and herbicides, may be used without prior written approval from the Parks & Recreation department.

Certain plants are not responsive to herbicides, such as poison oak and blackberry. Contact the Extension Service at (404) 298-4080 or Community Garden Program Manager for recommended removal techniques.

12. How does Garden Group maintain/ clean-up waste?

The Garden Group is responsible for waste removal, and may remove excess waste at their own expense.

** For all other questions and inquiries, contact the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Department at 404-371-3711 **