

Inver Grove Heights Parks and Recreation
Salem Hills Park Community Gardens
2026 RULES AND REGULATIONS



These rules have been created to make this a positive experience for all involved. Your compliance with the rules will help everyone have an enjoyable and prosperous garden. This is a community garden-please respect your neighbors and other park users. Please review the full document as some details may have changed.

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Garden Highlights

1. Gardens include two water spigots, one on the north side and one on the south side.
2. The size of all plots is approximately 13.5'x17.5' (236.25 FT²).
3. Rental of a plot for the season is a one-time fee of \$36.
4. Registration for rental and payment will be submitted online at www.ighmn.gov.
5. Past plot holders are not guaranteed the same plot as last year. Assignments will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis.
 - a. You will have an opportunity to request your favorite plot at the time of registration and the coordinator will do their best to accommodate or provide a plot close to the requested. There are absolutely no guarantees.
6. Plot number 30 is the most shaded plot and will be assigned last, unless requested.
7. Plots number 3 and 27 are the closest to the water spigots and may have more foot traffic on the walking path.

Important Dates

1. Priority Registration begins March 9, open registration will begin for any remaining plots on April 1.
2. Registered plot holders may begin planting on May 9, weather permitting. All gardens must be planted by June 1. If the plot is not planted by June 1, it will be forfeited and given to the next on the waitlist. *Unless you have communicated with the Garden Coordinator.*
3. All non-organic materials (including tomato cages) must be cleared out by October 11. Plots will be tilled over after that date.
4. 2025 gardeners will have priority registration for 2026
 - a. Mark your calendars: 2026 priority registration: March 9-31

How to register

1. Visit www.ighmn.gov/register
2. Search "Community Gardens"
3. You will be prompted on the following screens. Payment will be collected at this time.
4. Coordinator will provide official communication to all renters when the garden is ready to be planted. This communication will include the season gate lock code and assigned plot number.



CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES

- Gardens will be plowed, tilled, dragged, measured, & staked out in the spring by the City.
- City will till over the plots beginning October 11.
- City will take registrations and payments for plots.
- City will provide access to water through two spigots and compost bins.
- City will provide a gate lock for security and communicate this to all gardeners.
- City will provide necessary communications throughout the season to all gardeners.

General Rules

- Previous year plot holders have priority registration to guarantee they receive a plot. If plots remain, they will be made available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Plot holders may garden during park hours from 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Plots are intended for personal use only. Gardening for commercial purposes is prohibited.
- Pets are not allowed in the garden area.
- Children in the garden area must always be supervised.
- Park vehicles in designated areas only. Parking is not permitted on trails or grass.
- Plots are non-transferable. Fees are non-refundable.
- Water source is available on site; you will be required to bring your own bucket and or hose. The city does not provide a water hose.
- Plot holders are responsible for planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting their own plot.
- Plot holders are required to maintain surrounding pathways.
- Plot holders are responsible for bringing their own tools. Storage is not provided.
- Generally, visit your plot at least once a week.
- If you decide not to use your plot, please contact us so it may be re-assigned. If there is no evidence of activity at your plot by June 1, it will be re-assigned. There will be no refunds on plot fees paid.
- Bring all trash home to dispose of properly. There will be some trash receptacles on site.
- A compost bin will be available for your use.
- A lock has been provided to increase security to the garden. Do not share the season code with anyone who is not a registered plot holder and be sure to lock up when you leave (unless there are others remaining in the garden.)

Planting Rules

- Only seasonal (annual) plants may be planted.
- Bio-degradable mulch such as compost, leaves, straw, and hay are encouraged.
- Non-organic waste (cans, bottles, and plastic containers) should be placed in the trash barrels provided.
- Please keep your neighbors in mind. Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbor's plants.
- A walkway must be maintained by plot owner around each garden plot. Crops, plants, vines, vegetation, and weeds must be contained within boundaries of your garden plot. Please do not overlap onto the aisle or into neighboring plots.
- ADA standards require an aisle between plots; these may not be planted over unless given approval by Recreation Coordinator.
- All weeds and other debris must be removed before becoming a nuisance. Please place these items in designated areas. Failure to maintain your plot may result in forfeiture and inability to reserve for future seasons.
 - If two or more notices are issued for lack of weeding or failure to follow any of the garden rules, you will not be permitted to register for the following season.
- **Not Permitted**, use of the following items may result in immediate forfeit of the plot.
 - Perennials, shrubs, or trees.
 - Illegal or invasive plants.
 - Permanent fencing or other permanent structures.
 - Insecticides, herbicides, or commercial chemical pesticides.
 - Wood chips, carpet mulch, stone, and sod.

***Please Note: All rules are subject to change.*