

Adelphi Acre Community Garden 2025 Membership Agreement - Rules, Terms, and Conditions for Participation

I agree to abide by the following rules, terms, and conditions listed below. I understand that this is required in order for me to be a participating gardener at Adelphi Acre Community Garden:

1. I will treat all gardeners with respect and courtesy. I will not use abusive or profane language or discriminate against others. I will work to keep the garden a safe and enjoyable space where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully.
2. I agree to pay annual dues of \$50 per year for a 4'x 12' plot or \$75 per year for an 8' x 12' plot for the 2026 season - March 1st, 2026 to February 28th, 2027. This fee contributes to covering the garden's water bill and must be paid before my plot can be cultivated.
3. I will contribute two hours of Community Service per month in one or more of the available Stewardship teams. Failure to complete work hours will be subject to a \$10 per hour fine. Three months in a calendar year with no hours completed may result in my membership being terminated. AACG does not permit the monthly rollover of extra work hours. I will document, in a timely manner, my service hours each month in the Service Hours Binder (located in the tool shed) or in the online portal provided in the "Membership Resources" on the Garden Website. I understand that these service hours should total at least 2 hours a month and 24 hours per year. I will attend two mandatory workdays per year, dates to be determined annually, unless a prior arrangement is made with garden leadership.
4. During my membership I, along with any additional plot members, will join AACG BAND, a web and mobile app that is the official communication tool for the garden.
5. I will not give the gate lock combination to any unauthorized person or leave the property unsecured [unless bringing in or removing materials]. With the exception of garden events, AACG gates must remain locked at all times. Failure to abide will result in a revocation of membership after 2 warnings. I will observe the gardens curfew from 10 pm to 5 am.
6. Once I have been assigned a plot I will cultivate and plant it within two weeks. I will garden year round. My plot cannot be left fallow or unused unless prior arrangements have been made with the Plot Coordinator or garden leadership. I will harvest produce in a timely manner and control pests, grasses and weeds. If my plot is left neglected/unattended (un-watered, overrun by weeds or unharvested produce) for more than two weeks it will be considered abandoned and I will be notified in writing to correct the issue. If I fail to bring my plot back into compliance after two written notices, I may be required to forfeit my plot and my membership will be revoked. Extended absences should be discussed with the Plot Coordinator or arrangements made to have my plot cared for in my absence.
7. If damaging insects or blights are discovered, they MUST be reported to the Plot or Zone Coordinator immediately. If infestations pose a threat to neighboring plots or the garden in general and lesser treatments fail, plants may need to be removed or destroyed.
8. I am responsible for maintaining and weeding the 2 foot perimeter around my plot as part of the plot maintenance. This maintenance does not count towards the monthly 2 hours community service.
9. I will not give or transfer my plot to another person. All unplanted plots must return to the Association to be assigned to the next person on the list. However, Gardeners shall be allowed to exchange plots if mutually agreeable. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify either the Plot or Membership Coordinator.
10. I will abide by the plant prohibition and seed source list located in the Member Orientation guide and on the garden's website. I will not apply any chemical treatments of pesticides, herbicides or fungicides nor apply any synthetic fertilizers.
11. I will use compost, organic fertilizers, mulch and a rotation of plant varieties to build and maintain healthy soil structure. Three inches of compost shall be maintained to prevent soil loss and compaction. When germinating seeds, mulch should be brushed aside until the plant is established around 2"-3" inches.
12. I will not install any kind of watering system that operates independently from the above ground faucets e.g., systems on timers. I will follow all water restrictions and water conservation measures determined by garden leadership. I will remain on the property

while watering, and keep water from running off my plot.

13. I will not remove from the garden any common garden supplies acquired such as soil and compost, or tools. I will clean and return to storage any tools used, and if damaged or lost I will be responsible for the cost of replacement or repair. I will not take food or plants from other gardeners' plots unless offered. I will not take anything from the garden that is not rightfully mine. As a sponsored fund account under the umbrella of a non-profit entity on city owned property I will not use the garden name or imagery to promote or sell produce, plants, seeds, or flowers.

14. I will not smoke [tobacco carries the mosaic virus which is deadly to some plants], drink alcoholic beverages, use illegal drugs, or gamble in the garden. I will not come to the garden while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. I will not bring weapons to the garden. Dogs are not allowed in the garden due to health concerns and must be on leash outside of the garden [in the community area].

15. If driving to the garden I will park only on Adelphi Lane. I acknowledge that no driving on the site is permitted except to unload gardening items, or for brush pick-up and mulch deliveries.

16. I agree that I shall abide by majority votes of the Association, and shall endeavor to participate in votes and meetings to the best of my abilities. Furthermore, I understand that I represent all parties of my plot and receive only one vote.

17. I agree to hold harmless the Association and its officers for any injuries or losses incurred on the site. I understand that there may be bees and other insects as well as tools that may cause injury and accepts these risks. Moreover, the Association is not responsible for any personal property lost, stolen or damaged on the site unless a specific written agreement to that effect exists.

18. I am personally responsible for any persons, including minors, working on my plot, including any injuries to their person, or injuries or damage done by them to others. I agree to share all the terms of this agreement with anyone working on my plot.

19. Grievances or disputes are to be brought to the Plot Coordinator or Steering Committee, and if no resolution is possible, then parties agree to binding arbitration by the Chair of the Association or Garden Lead.