



Goodwill Community Campus  
1800 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI 54952

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When you donate and shop at Goodwill you are supporting our program and 29 other programs focused on the Goodwill mission.

### **Elevating People, Transforming Communities**

Goodwill Grows, Goodwill NCW or its partners do not assume any liability for mishap or injury of any kind occurring during program participation or at any program site.



## **Community Garden Ground Rules**

# 2017

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## Community Garden Ground Rules

### **Produce Donations and Garden Cleaning**

If you know that you will NOT be able to harvest for any reason, PLEASE call/email Goodwill Grows as we will harvest for you and donate the produce to local food programs.

Please donate extra vegetables and fruit to local food pantries and shelters. Contact a garden leader or Goodwill Grows if you have questions on how to donate.

### **Grievances**

If you have a concern, always bring it to program staff or a garden leader first. Often issues are easier resolved in person and by coming up with an action plan with program staff and/or volunteers. Concerns must be addressed in a positive, respectful manner.

### **Vandalism**

Unfortunately, gardens are periodically vandalized or garden produce is stolen. Goodwill Grows does everything it can to prevent this, but given the public nature of our spaces we lose produce every year. Vandalizing or stealing at the gardens will not be tolerated and will be reported to the police. If you suspect that you have been stolen from, please contact Goodwill Grows or your garden leaders. Your presence at the garden will help alleviate these issues, as will the presence of other gardeners. Garden signage is placed at the gardens to help ward off potential vandals. Please do not move or remove these signs.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Safety

Your safety is our priority. If you have any immediate concerns about unusual or dangerous activity in the gardens, contact law enforcement immediately by calling 911. Always alert program staff after notifying the police.

- Please be careful when you are using gardening tools. Motorized tools owned by the program are only to be used with program permission.
- Please use designated paths when moving about the garden.
- If possible, garden with a family member or friend.
- Gardening times are restricted to daylight hours: sunrise to sunset.

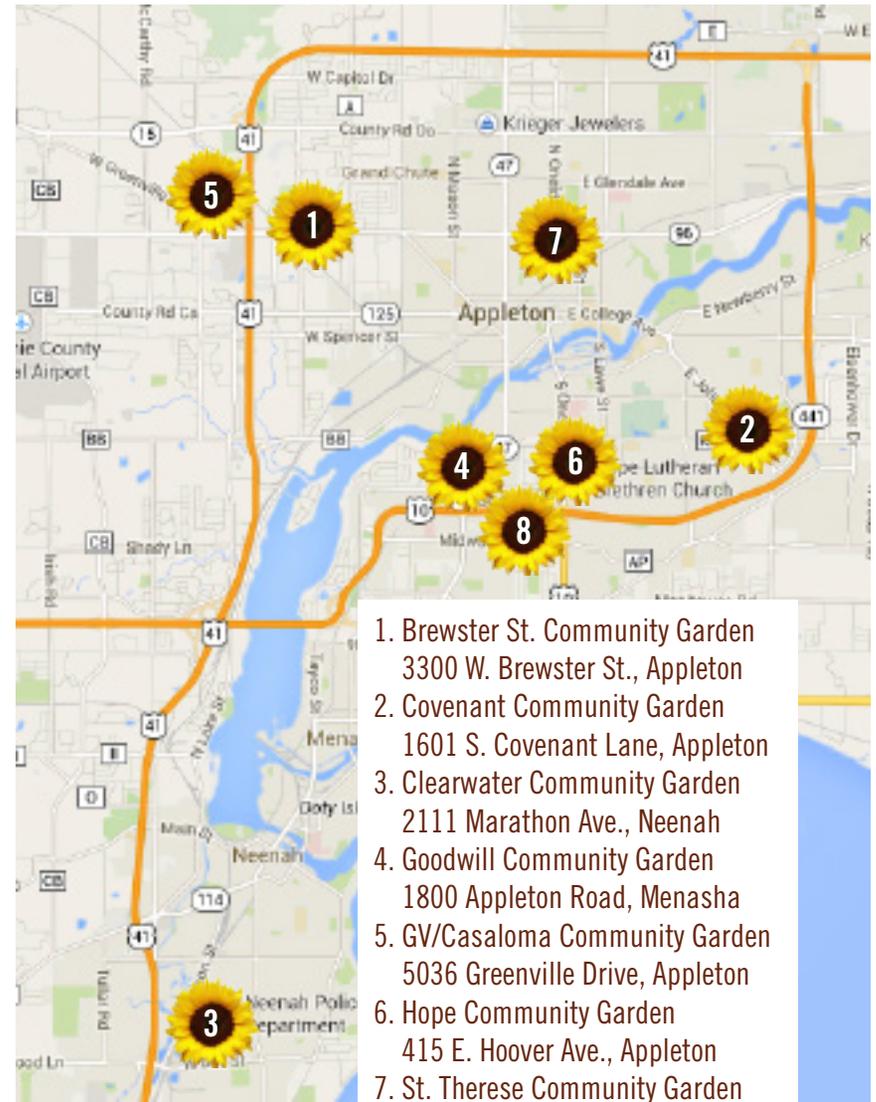
**Children at the Gardens:** We welcome and encourage children to participate in the gardening experience. You are responsible for the supervision of your children at all times while at the gardens. Please ensure they do not enter another gardener's plot. Be aware of the garden tools being used by your child.

## Communication

Periodically Goodwill Grows will send out newsletters to community gardeners about the program. If you are not receiving these, please contact the Goodwill Grows office or a garden leader. If your contact information changes, contact Goodwill Grows so we can communicate with you!

Sending out mass emails to fellow gardeners is strictly prohibited unless given permission by program staff.

# The Community Gardens



1. Brewster St. Community Garden  
3300 W. Brewster St., Appleton
2. Covenant Community Garden  
1601 S. Covenant Lane, Appleton
3. Clearwater Community Garden  
2111 Marathon Ave., Neenah
4. Goodwill Community Garden  
1800 Appleton Road, Menasha
5. GV/Casaloma Community Garden  
5036 Greenville Drive, Appleton
6. Hope Community Garden  
415 E. Hoover Ave., Appleton
7. St. Therese Community Garden  
213 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton
8. UW-Fox Valley Community Garden  
1478 Midway Road, Menasha

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Goodwill Grows — Our Role

Goodwill Grows works to put the community in community gardening. We do this by creating a welcoming, inclusive environment where gardeners working together is our highest priority. Beyond this, Goodwill Grows stewards the land, finances and services of all of the community gardens that have joined the program. Services we provide include:

- Waitlist maintenance
- Gardener registration
- Fundraising
- Event coordination
- Program development

Goodwill Grows is not responsible for tilling, gardening or maintaining the gardens. That responsibility falls on the community gardeners. If you have dreams or ideas for your garden, please be sure to voice them.

## Volunteering

The community gardens cannot exist without the help of all gardeners. If you are interested in volunteering, get to know your fellow gardeners and discuss ways to make your garden a beautiful, safe place to be. If you need assistance or have a question about a specific project, contact an on-site garden leader or the Goodwill Grows office at any time. Some example projects include: community space/flower bed building and maintenance, water tank filling and platform maintenance, abandoned plot cleanup, lawn care and rodent patrol, on-site garden education and more.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Garden Maintenance

**Pesticide use:** All gardeners have varied styles, traditions and goals for their gardens. In an effort to be as respectful as possible, we strongly discourage the use of nonorganic pesticides but do not prohibit their use. Before spraying these chemicals, please speak with your garden neighbors and let them know your intentions so they can set guidelines that will make sure it does not affect their garden preferences. Also, notify the Goodwill Grows staff of your intentions so we can track garden soil quality. Don't hesitate to contact the staff if you have any questions regarding the harm of pesticides or their responsible use. The use of gasoline-type products is prohibited.

**Fall garden cleanup:** Each gardener is responsible for cleaning his or her plot in preparation for the following season.

- If you intend to garden next year: Plant material should be cut up and left in your garden plot to decompose. Larger plants such as corn stalks, sunflowers, tomato and squash vines need to be removed and disposed of. (Your garden site may have a compost bin.) Please be sure that your garden has signage that identifies your site and that all plot markers are in place. Cover cropping and/or building your no-till garden for over-wintering is encouraged.
- If you do NOT intend to garden next year: All plant material and garden structures must be removed. Corner stakes or plot number stakes must remain in the garden at all times.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Garden Maintenance

**Weed maintenance:** All gardeners are expected to pick weeds in their plot before they go to seed. These seeds and invasive species can spread to other gardener's plots, which can make their gardening experience less enjoyable. Please compost or remove weeds from the garden. **Do NOT place them in pathways. Our landscape crews will not cut pathways with weed piles.**

**Policy: If a gardener has a plot with weeds that are seeding, Goodwill Grows staff will send out one courtesy email or phone call before taking action. If we receive no response or the plot remains untouched within one week, we will consider the plot abandoned. A notice of garden forfeiture will be sent to the gardener, and the abandoned plot will be given to the next person on the waitlist. All garden fees are nonrefundable.**

Notifications: Gardeners are required to notify Goodwill Grows when a plot seems abandoned. Goodwill Grows then will contact that gardener with a plot abandonment warning.

All gardeners must keep plants, compost piles, etc., in their own plots. Don't let your plants or weeds creep into the aisles or into your neighbor's plot.

**Fertilizing:** Gardeners are encouraged to fertilize as needed with organic materials such as compost and manure. Leaves, straw and grass clippings are good mulch around plants. Mulch also keeps mud from splashing on plants and vegetables, controls weeds and maintains moisture.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Garden Plots

**Full plots:** Yearly minimum donation is \$20.  
Approximately 20 feet by 25 feet, 500 square feet

**Half plots:** Yearly minimum donation is \$10.  
Approximately 20 feet by 12 feet, 240 square feet

## Garden Waitlist

Anyone is welcome to join the community garden waitlist at any time by contacting the Goodwill Grows office. The waitlist is operated on a first-come, first-served basis. Veteran gardeners who want additional plots must also join the waitlist. New gardeners are given priority.

## Garden Registration

**All gardeners** are expected to begin gardening by **June 1** every year. After this, unused plots may be brush cut and reassigned. New gardener orientations take place by **May 1** and occasionally as plots open up during the growing season.

**Veteran gardeners** in good standing may keep the same plot(s) year after year as long as they re-register by **Nov. 30**. If Goodwill Grows is not contacted by then, your plot may be given to someone on the waitlist. Gardeners who miss the deadline will be placed on the waitlist. Garden fees must be paid and waiver must be signed before gardeners are allowed to begin gardening in the spring.

All gardeners who will not continue gardening the following season are asked to notify Goodwill Grows so we can more efficiently transfer the plot to a new gardener.

No refunds are issued for garden plots.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Community Gardening

**Education:** All gardeners are encouraged to share their gardening knowledge and experiences with others. If you or someone you know has a skill to share, please contact your on-site garden leaders or the Goodwill Grows office.

**Work day:** Every Saturday during the growing season is a community work day. Whenever possible, join other gardeners on this day to beautify the garden. Examples include: spreading mulch in pathways, mowing, beautifying community spaces, etc.

**Courtesy:** Tall structures or crops must be positioned so they do not shade a neighboring plot. If you're wondering if a plant or garden technique might be a nuisance, just ask your gardening neighbor. Trees are not allowed to be planted in the garden plots.

**Visitors:** Visitors are welcome to explore our gardens on the designated pathways but are not allowed to garden or take anything from the garden without permission.

**Watering:** Water tanks are provided at the gardens for the use of watering your garden or washing produce only. **Do not drink the water; it is unsafe for drinking.**

Use buckets or watering cans to take water to your garden site, but please do not hang buckets or watering cans on the spigots or attach hoses to the spigots.

**Garbage:** All gardens must be kept free of garbage. **No dumping will be tolerated.** You are responsible for removing and disposing of your own garbage and garden waste. There is no garbage pickup. All garbage must be taken with you. Gardeners who leave waste or litter at the gardens may be asked to leave the garden.

# Community Garden Ground Rules

## Community Gardening

**Parking:** Parking is not allowed in the gardens. Vehicles must be parked in areas that are clearly marked for parking.

**Pets:** Pets must be kept on a leash at all times. Please always clean up after your pet. You are responsible for the supervision of your pet at all times. Please ensure they do not enter another gardener's plot or disturb other gardeners.

## Garden Maintenance

**Plot identification:** Corners of each plot are marked with PVC pipe or stakes. **Please do not move or remove these stakes.** All gardeners must garden within these markers and may not move ground outside these markers. Gardeners who move these stakes or garden outside their plot markers may be asked to leave the garden.

Gardeners are required to make a small sign for their garden with their name on it. This will make your garden more personal and serve as a name tag for other gardeners so they can get to know you easily.

**No-till gardening:** Gardeners are encouraged to no-till garden. Benefits include less watering, fewer weeds, healthy soil and no soil erosion. Tilling disrupts the micro and macro organisms in the soil, causes soil erosion and encourages weeds by exposing seeds to sunlight. You can build your own nutrient-rich soil by layering dry organic materials on top of grass and weeds. For more information contact garden leaders or Goodwill Grows.

**Traps:** Only live trapping is allowed at the gardens. No trap may be set that could harm another gardener. Goodwill will not trap.