

## Forest St. Community Garden - 2025 Gardener Information

### *Welcome Gardeners!*

We are counting down the days until May. The city won't till or turn on the water until then. Once they do their work I will mark the plots and fencing and planting can happen. The porta potty will be delivered in mid-May and we will be ready to garden full on. Note: Tender plants like tomatoes and peppers should not be planted until temps stay above 55/60 degrees.

### **General information about all garden operations:**

- **Tools in the corn crib shed:** lock combination **9876** (written on the lower right corner of the whiteboard on the tool wall.)
  - Use and return tools daily. Leave things better than you found them.
  - 4 wheelbarrows are leaning against the pavilion or in the compost bin area. There are pitch forks, shovels, rakes and specialty tools in the back left of the corn crib.
  - Please let a garden leader know of any broken tools before throwing them away.
  - Mower and Weed Whip - both are available - fuel and starting fluid are in the shed.
- **Water:** Last to leave each day - turn off water main and lock handle
  - **Water main valve:** single valve handle on grey post near ground.
  - **Padlock and lock hasp:** same combination as the shed (**9876**)
    - Slide padlock shackle through hole on main valve in the off position and insert padlock shackle onto the locking hasp. Lock padlock and scramble the locking combination.
    - The lock is to deter water theft and misuse by non-gardeners.
  - **Daily:** return hoses and nozzles back to normal and shut off garden water and lock water valve main.
- **Compost bins:** behind white maintenance garage
  - **1st bin** - discard disease-free plants and vegetables - NO TOMATOES VINES, NO INVASIVE WEEDS (no quack grass, no creeping charlie,..). Please use and help turn/rotate the pile.
  - **2nd bin** - Cosmos supplied for season start - please sow directly where you are planting starts and seeds.  
<https://www.cowsmocompost.com/>

- **Stalky matter** - please set near the motorized chipper, to be ground into compost after it dries out. (Please keep pathway open between compost bins and trees.)
- **Weed and Green Bag/Delivery Boxes:** Stored empty in pavilion shed or under pavilion sorting table – often left at the end of plot rows near gravel. Large green bags/delivery boxes are for invasive weeds - knock soil off to reduce weight and keep good soil in the gardens.
  - Weigh bags down with tools, weeds until you have added enough weight so that the bags won't blow away. (we have tracked them down as far as a block away from the gardens.)
  - Feel free to move the bag around as you work on your plot.
  - Full green bags - place close to the road - they are taken to the brush site (M/W/Sat.) as needed.
  - **NOTE:** If the bags are too heavy to move start a different bag (if you can't lift them...we can't either) Repeat as needed.
- **Rocks/concrete/bricks:** 30 years ago, this area belonged to households. If you work up any of these materials, please throw over the berm toward the river.
- **Mowing/trimming the perimeter of your plot:** Please keep your plot perimeter mowed or trimmed. Excess growth makes it impossible to take down fencing and encourages weed growth into your plot.
- **Garbage and porta pottie:**
  - The city will empty both as needed.
  - Please throw away or recycle old fencing or cages at home.
  - Please help keep the entire garden area free of garbage, as it reflects poorly on our community garden (passers-by and the city).
- **Homeless and vagrants:** frequently stay in the Forest St. Parks and gardens. If they are sleeping or peacefully hanging out leave them alone. If they are behaving in a violent manner, please report them to Eau Claire Police non-emergency at **715-839-4972** (please program this number into your phone for quick access.)