



Getting Started

at Merriam Station Community Garden

Guidelines

Start Deadline

- Start gardening by Memorial Day, May 25, to keep your plot!

Organic methods - no chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, or fungicides whatsoever.

Weeds

- Keep your plots and adjacent pathways weeded.
- Rule of thumb: if your weeds have gone to seed, time to clean them up.

Abandoned plots

- Plots unattended by Memorial Day will be reassigned to individuals on the waiting list.
- Please report abandoned plots.
- We have a long waiting list and would like to turn over plots quickly.

Plot numbers - please display your plot number.

Community

- Get to know your neighbors! Make a habit of talking to other gardeners.
- Keep an open mind. We've got a lot to learn from one another!
- Don't be a sourpuss. Smiles are free! Say hello! Teamwork makes the dream work!
- Remember, we're all volunteers.

Sheds and Tools

- **Main shed key** is in the lockbox behind the bulletin board. Password to the key box will be shared in your welcome email.
- Cleaning supplies will be provided in the shed. Wipe down all tools before and after use.
- Keep it **clean** and **organized**. Leave it at least as neat as you found it.
- If you take it out, put it back.
- **Hilltop shed key** will be located outside the shed once installed.



Water

- Water is turned on mid-May. Password to the fire hydrant lock will be shared in your welcome email.
- After unlocking, please close and secure the lock back to the hydrant to avoid lost/stolen locks.
- Please lock the fire hydrant if you're the last gardener leaving for the day.
- Always attend to running sprinklers (do not leave water on)!
- Please roll the hoses neatly and rinse them off when you hang them.

Garden Organization

Garden Circle Meetings

- Sundays; Noon-2pm via ZOOM.
- April 19, May 17, June 14, July 19, Aug 16, Sep 13, Oct 11
- Join us to share your voice and get involved.
- ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

Community Days

For the time being, following state guidelines, MSCG will not be hosting any in-person, large-group events or meetings. The Community Day dates listed below represent previously planned dates that may or may not happen this season. Keep an eye out for future messages.

- Saturdays; 9am to Noon at MSCG.
- June 20, September 19, October 17
- Come to the garden to tackle some special projects, general site maintenance, or just to work in your own plot.
- The more the merrier! A great way to knock out some volunteer hours.
- Enjoy coffee, refreshments, and lunch courtesy of MSCG.

Food Donations Program

- Please plant extra with the food shelf in mind.
- Donations will be delivered to Keystone once we begin yielding produce.
- Two gardens have been set aside as food donation plots.
- Contact Toni to join the donations effort: 651-647-4466 or TLR3232@icloud.com

Volunteering

As part of our garden contract, we all agree to volunteer two hours a month or twelve hours a season. You can volunteer in the following ways:

- Work with your Block Captain on routine garden maintenance
- Volunteer to work on a special team such as Food Shelf Donations or a particular communal garden.
- Log your hours at www.merriamstation.org or in the logbook in the shed.



Neighborhoods and Block Captains

- The garden is divided into five neighborhoods, with each one led by a block captain or two.
- Block captains will help to coordinate the following maintenance:
 - Mowing
 - Weed whacking
 - Pathway mulching or planting
 - Sheet compost maintenance
 - Raspberries
 - Upkeep of nearby communal gardens or plantings
 - Food shelf plot tending
 - Other tasks particular to location
- Block captains will communicate with gardeners about the following:
 - Abandoned (overgrown/unweeded) plots.
 - Messes on easements or pathways.
 - Orientation for new gardeners.
 - Liaison to Management team.

Safety

Homeless Neighbors

- Report campers immediately to city services at 651-266-8989. The city will send a social worker.
- Please also notify mscg@unionparkdc.org.

Dumping and Litter

- Clean it up, if you can!
- Report dumping immediately to city services at 651-266-8989.

Contacts

As a member of MSCG, you are empowered to respond to opportunities/problems at the garden the same way you may at your home or residence. If you see a problem that needs addressing, please use your available resources to find a resolution. The more voices, the louder we are heard. Here are a few contacts that will help you with this.

Always call 911 in the event of an emergency or if you witness criminal activity.

MSCG Management Team - mscg@unionparkdc.org

Please contact the management team with any questions or concerns regarding your experience at the garden. We're very responsive to our garden family.

St. Paul Non-emergency Police Line 651-767-0640 <--answered 24/7

Call this line if you are unsure who to call and the situation is not a police, fire or medical emergency. Any calls should be regarding witnessed "behavior-based" crimes/activities.



Report all camping on site: [St. Paul Department of Safety and Inspections](#) 651-266-8989. The city will send social workers.

Report dumping: 651-266-8989

[Ramsey County Social Services](#) 651-266-4444.

Call this line to report concerns for our homeless garden neighbors.

Receive updates & alerts | Swap plants | Share tips | Get inspired



Follow @MerriamStationCommunityGarden

Join the Facebook group: "MSCG Exchange"



Follow "merriamstation"