

## **MEXICO COMMUNITY GARDENER GUIDELINES 2024**

**The following guidelines have been established by the members of the**

### **Mexico Community Garden Steering Committee.**

1. All gardeners are required to complete an application form. Plots will be assigned after March 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 at our 1<sup>st</sup> Spring Gardeners Meeting. All gardeners are required to attend and sign up for weekly Volunteer Days. This is a time to get to know your fellow gardeners and members of the steering committee and other volunteers assisting with Community Gardening in Mexico and to help with the upkeep of the garden and special projects.
2. You are required to keep your plot and the adjoining pathways tended to. You also need to keep your produce harvested and if you don't want the produce for yourself we will have boxes in the green house for extra vegetables to be picked on Sunday and Tuesday evenings to distributed through the Food Bank on Mondays and Wednesdays.
3. This next season, vines and corn is to be planted in their special areas. We will have markers for you to mark your rows of corn and vines crops.
4. Please call the Garden Leader if you need help or if you will be out of town for an extended period of time. If you plan to discontinue use of your space, please let the Garden Leader know as soon as possible so that your plot can be assigned to another gardener.
5. Do not apply anything to or pick anything from another person's garden without their approval.
6. Put weeds and dead plants into the compost facilities provided. Do not leave them in the pathway. Any diseased plants or seedy or invasive weeds are to be bagged and put in the trash so as not to contaminate the gardens. Woody plants are to be place in the brush pile to be carted to the recycling center. (Woody perennial plants are not allowed). Tomato's vines are to be put in trash dumpster also. (Tomatoes can spread diseases to other plants).
7. Please do not leave the water on unattended. When finished gardening for the day, please roll up the hose at the faucet area and return hose and tools to storage shed before leaving the garden. All gardens are to be left neat and tidy. Please pick up litter when you see it.
8. THINGS NOT ALLOWED in or around Community Gardening area. Smoking and chewing tobacco (Tobacco can transmit a lethal virus to tomatoes and cigarette butts are loaded with toxins.) No Pets, Drugs (Including Alcohol), Firearms, No Fires Are Allowed. No Planting Illegal Plants Or Illegal Activities Are Prohibited.
9. Please Supervise Children In The Garden.

10. For your safety only garden during daylight hours. Consider gardening in pairs and keep a cell phone nearby if it makes you feel more comfortable.
11. Report theft, vandalism and unusual activities to Garden Leader and Mexico Public Safety.
12. All safe food-handling practices need to be followed from the picking of produce and throughout its consumption. Produce to be stored and consumed later needs to be appropriately care for off-site. Vegetables (produce) grown in the garden need to be thoroughly washed before consumption.
13. Use common courtesy, be considerate of your gardening neighbors and ENJOY.
14. At the end of the gardening season, all dead plants and non-plant materials (string, wire, wood, metal, plastic, etc.) must be removed and disposed of properly. If your garden is not cleaned-up by the end of the season you could lose your gardening privilege for the next year.
15. Violation of the Mexico Community Garden Guidelines: If any of the guidelines are violated you will be contacted by phone or by e-mail and have one week to address the violation. After one week, if the violation has not been remedied, you may lose your gardening privileges.

**GARDEN SEEDS AND PLANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT  
MEXICO COMMUNITY GARDEN START- UP IN THE SPRING.**

(Additional garden vegetable seeds and annual flower seeds are available from Mexico Garden Club and Audrain County Master Gardeners by the generosity of local resources.)