

## GARDEN RULES AND AGREEMENTS FOR THE OAK WAY COMMUNITY GARDEN

*The Community Garden Rules and Agreements are intended to allow all gardeners the freedom to tend to their garden plot in an undisturbed and peaceful fashion. We, the Board of Directors of the Butte Environmental Council, wish for all garden members to gain the potential benefits from their allotment.*

### INTRODUCTION

Garden rules and regulations are administered by the BEC Garden Committee and BEC General Manager. If any gardener suspects foul play from another gardener or external entity, it is their responsibility to notify the BEC office at (530) 891-6424. Any conflict regarding the written rules and agreements will be managed first by the General Manager, the Garden Committee, and ultimately the BEC Board of Directors.

Non-compliance with the rules, terms, and conditions is cause for exclusion from the garden and loss of your lease.

1. You will receive one verbal warning from the General Manager.
2. If no response or correction has been made, you will receive written notice two weeks later.
3. In another two weeks, if no response or correction has been made, you will receive written final notification from the Garden Committee that you have forfeited your gardening privileges and plot.
4. You will be allowed to reapply for another garden plot only after one year, and only at the discretion of the Garden Committee.

### RULES

As a member of the garden I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to abide by the following rules and agreements.

1. The Lease Fee is due by March 1st of each year.
2. Once I have been assigned a plot, I will cultivate and plant it within two weeks. I will garden throughout the growing season (Mar-Dec). I will clear my plot of spent vegetation by January 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. **Activities at the Gardens are strictly limited to “basic gardening activities” or “small group meetings”. Any plans for activities above and beyond this, such as events, workshops, facility modifications or use of mechanized equipment, must first be approved by the BEC General Manager in writing as these activities may be outside the scope of BEC’s agreement with the City of Chico or may require special event insurance coverage.**
4. My plot cannot be left fallow or unused for any period of three weeks or longer, without notifying the General Manager. If I am unable to tend to my plot for any period of three weeks or longer, I will notify **the General Manager immediately with an explanation for the inactivity.**
5. I will not expand my plot beyond my plot boundaries or into paths or other plots. I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot. I will keep my plot free of noxious weeds, pests and diseases. I will not grow plants or erect structures that shade adjacent plots.
6. I will not leave trash in the garden. Anything I bring from home will return with me. All organic matter is expected to be placed in the appropriate compost area.

7. I will use only **organic** pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides in the garden.
8. I will use water conservatively, using no more than the necessary amount to cultivate the crops in my personal plot. I will not water outside my plot boundaries. I understand I may be fined for excessive water use. **Gardeners are encouraged to install drip irrigation on timers to better manage watering schedules and reduce water use. Excessive water use (run-off, standing water, soggy soil, etc.) is contrary to the Butte Environmental Council's long-standing commitment to water conservation, and if left unaddressed, will result in termination of the garden lease.**
9. I will make sure my dog is on a leash and supervised at all times. Any excrement is to be promptly and properly disposed of.
10. I will not cultivate medical marijuana in my plot.
11. I will not smoke in the garden perimeters.
12. I will not take any crops other than the ones I have planted in my personal plot.
13. Crops may be shared with friends and family, but I will not sell the crops grow in the community garden.
14. **Gardeners are encouraged to attend the monthly garden committee meetings.**
15. I will volunteer 8 hours for the garden each year, **especially at the quarterly garden workdays each year.** I understand that hours must be signed off by someone on the garden committee in order to be considered valid.
16. I will not take anything (tools, carts, etc.) from the garden that does not belong to me without appropriate consent from the garden coordinator.
17. I will respect other gardeners, and I will not use abusive, profane or discriminatory language against others. I understand that threatening or violent language may result in immediate expulsion from the garden.
18. I will work to keep the garden a secure and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.
19. I will sign the Release of all Claims form before cultivating my assigned allotment.

**COMMITMENT**

I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms, and conditions stated above for the participation in the Oak Way Community Garden.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_