



## Akron Cooperative Farms 2021 Garden Rules

**Hours:** Sunrise to sunset daily. No one is allowed in the garden after dark. Security cameras are in use.

**Severe Weather:** Gardeners are required to leave the garden if severe weather is coming.

**Communication:** We will communicate through the **Facebook Gardeners Group** and the **Message Board** located at the entrance of the Farm. Please check regularly for new notices.

### Gardener Conduct

1. "Love your neighbor as yourself."
2. To maintain the peace and tranquility of the farm, gardeners are expected to treat each other with courtesy and respect. Disrespectful behavior and bad language are not allowed.
3. No one is permitted to trespass into any garden plot without permission of the gardener.
4. Picking vegetables from any plot other than your own is prohibited.
5. Children must be with a parent at all times to ensure they do not step into other garden plots or disturb fellow gardeners.
6. **Do not litter:** Put trash in trash bins, not on the ground.
7. ACF prohibits alcohol, drugs, and smoking on grounds. Unless otherwise authorized by law, pursuant to ORC 2923.122, firearms and dangerous ordnance are prohibited on the farm premises.
8. Grievances are given to ACF staff or a member of the Advisory Committee.

### Service Commitment: One Hour per Month

9. One gardener or a family member per plot needs to contribute to the work of the Farm: One hour per month in May, June, July, August, September, and October. Talk to the Director or a Team Leader to decide what job you will do. There are many jobs to choose from: planting flowers, compost, tilling, cutting the grass, etc. If you want to be a Team Leader, please tell the Director.

### Plot Assignments

10. Plots are assigned by the Director under the supervision of the Advisory Committee.
11. Returning gardeners are given priority and may request the same location or a different one.
12. **NOTE: Anyone working in a garden plot must have a signed 2021 Waiver of Liability on file.**
13. Gardeners cannot give or sell their garden plot to anyone else. The Director will re-assign your plot to someone on the waiting list if you no longer want to garden.

## Tools and Resources

14. Water is expensive. Do not leave water running. Roll up hoses after using.
15. **Compost is for ACF garden plots only.** Do not take compost from ACF property.
16. Each plot can have 4 wheelbarrows of compost. Do not take more; we are all sharing it.
17. Tools and wheelbarrows are available for gardeners' use on ACF garden plots only. Unauthorized removal of garden assets is prohibited.
18. Clean tools after using them and return to the shed area as quickly as possible so that other gardeners can use them.
19. A tiller is available to use for people who have been trained and approved by the Director. Tillers are expensive and cannot be replaced easily. If a gardener breaks this equipment due to irresponsible use, they will be responsible for paying for repairs.

## Planting and Maintenance

20. Organic Methods Only. No chemical sprays or artificial fertilizers are allowed. If you have problems with insects or plant disease, please ask for help. We can give you guidance or consult with the Ohio State University Extension Service.
21. Don't let your plants grow into the path or other people's gardens. Leave enough room for growth.
22. Keep your garden and path around it weeded. Take weeds to the compost bin.
23. Keep garden paths clear of tools and personal items so other gardeners can walk through.
24. If a plot is left unattended with overgrown weeds or rotting vegetables, a written notice will be given. If there is no activity within 2 weeks, the plot will be re-assigned to someone else on the waiting list. If you are sick or have a reason for not caring for your plot, please contact the Director.
25. All personal tools and personal property must be stored on your own plot. ACF is not responsible for personal property that is left unattended on the property.

## Farmers Market

26. The Farmers Market will start July 7 to September 29, Wednesdays from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.
27. If you want to sell at the Farmer's Market, you will need to submit a Vendor Application BEFORE market day.

## End of Season Clean-Up: **ALL items must be removed from your plot.**

28. At the end of the season by October 31, gardeners need to completely clean their garden plots. Put all man-made materials in the trash, including plastic and string. Put dead plants and weeds into compost bins.

**Please Note:** Failure to comply with any of the above Garden Rules may result in the gardener forfeiting his or her garden plot and being excluded from the ACF Community Garden program. Violations may be reported in writing to the Advisory Committee using the Incident Report form.



**Akron Cooperative Farms  
Waiver of Liability**

*We hope your gardening experience is safe and rewarding, but accidents can happen. The following waiver must be signed by all gardeners to protect Akron Cooperative Farms from liability.*

**Waiver:** In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in the Akron Cooperative Farms community garden, a program of The Akron Leadership Foundation, I, for myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, do **hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue** Akron Cooperative Farms, or its employees, volunteers and agents from liability **from any and all claims** resulting in personal injury, accidents or illnesses (including death), and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in Akron Cooperative Farms. (**Initials**\_\_\_\_\_).

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** I also agree to INDEMNIFY AND HOLD Akron Cooperative Farms and its employees, volunteers and agents HARMLESS from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney's fees brought as a result of my involvement in Akron Cooperative Farms and to reimburse them for any such expenses incurred (**Initials**\_\_\_\_\_).

**Severability:** The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Ohio that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect (**Initials**\_\_\_\_\_).

**Photo Release:** I authorize Akron Cooperative Farms to use my or my child's photo in any reasonable manner Akron Cooperative Farms desires, for advertising, display, audio-visual, exhibition, or editorial use (**Initials**\_\_\_\_\_).

**Acknowledgment of Understanding:** I have read this waiver of liability, fully understand its terms, and understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily and intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Parent or Guardian (if student is under 18):** I am the parent or legal guardian of the above-named minor child and, as such, I am authorized to enter into this agreement. I agree that my minor child and I are bound by and subject to the terms of this agreement. I understand that my signature here reflects my agreement to hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue Akron Cooperative Farms or its employees, volunteers, and agents from liability from any and all claims resulting in personal injury, accidents, or illnesses (including death), and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in Akron Cooperative Farms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date