SWEET BRIAR COMMUNITY GARDEN GUIDELINES & RULES

Users of the Sweet Briar Community Garden understand and agree to follow these guidelines and rules:

1. I will show activity (removing weeds) in the garden by April 10th and verify my garden area (pay dues) by May 10th; annual garden fees will be based on plot size. Garden spaces are NON-TRANSFERRABLE. New gardeners receive higher priority than existing gardeners for open space. Only after May 10th will open plots be available to existing gardeners.

2. I will strive to use integrated pest management (IPM) and minimize use of chemicals in my garden. IPM considers a targeted species' life cycle and intervenes in reproduction, growth or development to reduce the population. Land use practices are examined for possible change; other insects, animals, birds or reptiles in the ecosystem are used as natural predators. IPM consists of: (1) growing healthy, genetically varied crops (cultural control); (2) use of pest-resistant crop varieties (host plant resistance); (3) use of natural enemies to crop pests (biological control); and (4) occasional use of targeted pesticides as a last resort (chemical control). A list of chemicals approved by the gardeners for use in the garden will be posted in the garden pavilion. Abuse of chemicals may lead to expulsion from the garden.

3. I will actively participate in at least four workdays or the equivalent per season.

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5. I will keep weeds down. Improper maintenance will result in SBCG warning and options for assistance. I will also maintain pathways and fence lines immediately surrounding my plot. Any trash/litter and other obstacles to pathway or fence use and maintenance that require removal may either be placed in your plot or possibly mown over and damaged at your cost.

6. Non-SBC member candidates will be approved at the spring meeting, pending available garden space. Thereafter they become full SBCG members.

7. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify one of the gardener coordinators. (The gardener coordinators will be the individuals involved in the garden oversight either by election or by practice.) After one month’s inactivity it may be reassigned, mown, or defoliated appropriately to minimize weed seed proliferation.

8. Glyphosate will only be used in agreed upon areas south of the sidewalk and should contain an indicator dye. I will learn appropriate caution and care for application. Spraying where prohibited (north of sidewalk) will result in garden expulsion.

9. I will plant tall crops only where they will not shade neighboring plots, nor will I allow vines or other plants to invade the space of my neighbor’s plots. Your neighbor has the right to prune them at their garden boundary if they do.

10. I will pick only my own crops, unless given explicit permission by another plot user, and will fairly share community crops.

11. I will park my vehicle out of the way of apple trees and the hay barn; no unauthorized use of farmers’ hay.

12. I will use safe, common-sense practices in the garden, including wearing footwear as protection from rusty metal objects (wire, nails, etc.) that are to be expected in an old cattle feed lot.

13. I will keep any visitors and/or children I bring to the garden under control and respectful of the peace of the garden. I will not bring pets into the garden.

14. I will keep the walk-in gate closed at all times to keep out animals.

15. I understand that neither the garden group nor Sweet Briar College are responsible for my actions. I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN GROUP, INDIVIDUALS THEREIN, AND SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE FOR ANY DAMAGE, LOSS, LIABILITY, CLAIM, DEMAND, SUIT, COST AND EXPENSE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RESULTING FROM, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THE SWEET BRIAR COMMUNITY GARDEN BY THE GARDEN GROUP, ITS SUCCESSORS, ASSIGNS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND INVITES.

(Signature) ___________________________________ (Print Name) ___________________________________

(Date) ______________