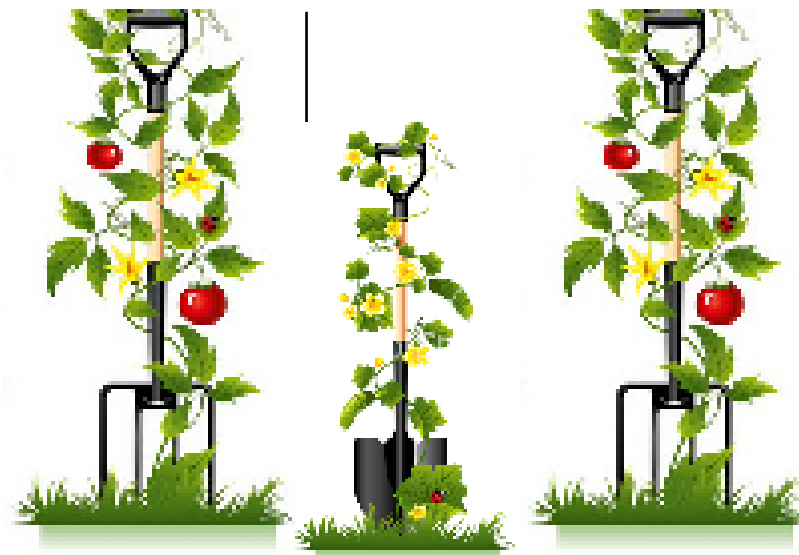


Sheboygan Avenue Community Garden in Rennebohm Park Madison, Wisconsin

Handbook 2017

Celebrating our 37th Year!



Problems? Dial 9-1-1 for emergencies. For non-emergency, garden problems regarding thievery or mischief, contact Madison Police (608) 255-2345

Welcome to Sheboygan Avenue Community Garden located in Rennebohm Park

We encourage you to visit the garden often. You will be surprised how many things ripen almost overnight, or how many weeds have set seed since your last visit.

Our social events offer a chance to get acquainted with neighbors from around the world. Did you know that more than a dozen languages are spoken here? Or that our age range is almost a century? But we all speak 'gardening'.

Our commonality is a love of gardening. Each of us follows our own practices for growing vegetables and flowers and we learn from each other about new plants. The mixture makes for our famous diverse potluck dinners. Be sure to join us.

If you have any questions, would like to be more involved, or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. This is a community of gardeners!

Sincerely,

The Garden Steering Committee

Sheboygan Community Garden
PO Box 5011
Madison, WI 53705

Steering Committee Contacts

Coordinator - Cindy Statz, coordinator@sheboygancommunitygarden.org

Registrar - Leann Tigges, registration@sheboygancommunitygarden.org

Treasurer - Yuhua Li, yuhualius818@gmail.com

Secretary - Mary McCarthy, mmccarthy@tnc.org

Past Coordinator - Pat Soderholm, pm.sode@gmail.com

Garden Preservation - Jim Baumann, kayakerJB@gmail.com

Time Monitor - Geren Zhang, timekeeper@sheboygancommunitygarden.org

Plot Monitor - Ruth Cadoret, rcadoret@earthlink.net

Tools/Equipment - Jim Dudley, jim.j.dudley@gmail.com

Web Master - Lauren Nagle, river5@charter.net

Perennials - Mike Peterson, petersonmichael57@gmail.com

- Ruth Cadoret, rcadoret@earthlink.net

- Pat Soderholm, pm.sode@gmail.com

The Gardens Network website: danecountycommunitygardens.org

Please visit our website: www.sheboygancommunitygarden.org

Like us on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sheboygan-Community-Garden-Madison/124490820902516>

Sheboygan Garden Calendar 2017

April 6 (Thursday)	Spring Potluck & Meeting, 6pm-8pm
April 22 (Saturday)	Garden Kickoff - Workday, 9am-noon
April-October (Saturdays)	Workdays, 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9am-noon (rain date is one week later)
May 20 (Saturday)	Rhubarb Fest Brunch, 11am
May 21 (Sunday)	Garden must be clean and ready to plant or plot will be reassigned
June 17 (Saturday)	Summer Solstice Garden Brunch, 11am Celebrate summer solstice with music!
August 19 (Saturday)	Anything but Zucchini Brunch, 11am
October 5 (Thursday)	Autumn Potluck & Annual meeting, 6pm-8pm
October 14 (Saturday)	Garden Clean-up Workday, 9am-noon
October 16 (Monday)	Garden plots must be cleared and hardscapes stored

Good Neighbor Rules We Agree To Follow

- 1. We are an organic garden.** Synthetic pesticides, insecticides, herbicides and fungicides are NOT allowed. Only OMRI Listed for Organic Use or UW Extension approved products may be used, such as NEEM or Safer's Insecticidal Soap. For more information on botanicals, microbials, and inorganic pesticides visit wimastergardener.org/?q=OrganicPesticides. There are also many structural approaches - companion planting, target crops, traps, etc....please contact a garden board member for additional information.
- 2. Garden plots must be reasonably utilized** for growing food or flowers for members' use only; flowers, herbs, and vegetables grown at the garden are not for sale.
- 3. Gardeners are responsible for clearing weeds** in their garden including the garden fence lines bordering their garden, during the gardening season and clean up at end of the year.
- 4. Gardeners are responsible for harvesting produce** in a timely manner.
- 5. Gardeners must maintain low borders** in order not to block sunlight from your neighbor's plot. In general, plants on a border should be less than 3 feet tall. Plants and plant structures should be less than 5 feet tall (the height of the perimeter fence) throughout your plot unless your assigned plot is located on the north border of the garden.
- 6. Gardeners are responsible for keeping plants** and equipment within their plot. Please keep in mind the size of your plants when mature. Allow enough room away from plot lines so that plants are set where they will not spill over into other plots or paths. Plants should be placed away from your plot borders - no less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the full, mature size of the plants you are growing. Your plants must stay within the boundary of your plot. Garden paths along your plot borders are encouraged. Plantings falling outside of your plot will be removed.
- 7. Gardeners shall not use the perimeter fence for support** of garden structures or plants that fall over or outside of the fence.
- 8. Garden structures must be self-supporting and blend into the garden landscape.** Structures and edging material should be generally available at garden supply stores or may be found wood branches. **Plot border fencing structures taller than 24" are not allowed.** White structures taller than 24" are not allowed. Please contact

garden coordinator with any questions regarding use of found materials. Materials must be aesthetically pleasing.

9. **Gardeners may not enter adjacent plots** to access your garden plot.
10. **Gardeners may not grow uncontained invasive plants**, as mint, horseradish and raspberries.
11. **Gardeners are responsible for the care of their plot.** Please contact the garden coordinator whenever someone other than you will be caring for or harvesting in your plot. Discuss your plan to address watering, weeding, and harvesting. Anyone working/harvesting in a plot besides the assigned gardener must be with the assigned gardener or have gone through gardener orientation.
12. **Gardeners do not enter or take anything** from someone's plot without specific permission from the gardener.
13. **Gardeners do take trash**, unused garden equipment, plastic gloves, and diseased garden material home for disposal.
14. **Required Work Hours:** Gardeners are required to contribute a minimum of 4 work hours per plot, per year, caring for the common areas. Volunteers are needed to care for the PAR (Plant a Row) plots. Contributing more hours is encouraged. Gardeners are responsible for reporting their work hours to the timekeeper. Failure to complete and report required work hours is cause for penalty.

Physically challenged gardeners may be exempt from work hours. There are many ways to contribute. Contact the Garden Coordinator to discuss options or possible exemption.

Work days are scheduled monthly (see calendar). Independent work can include:

- Weeding common areas
- Tending communal perennial flower beds
- Laying wood chips in common areas
- Mowing and/or weed-whacking common areas
- Collecting litter or garbage and taking it home

Time spent on activities not considered reportable work-hours:

- Working in personal plots and personal plot lines

- Working in someone else's garden plot, unless approved by the garden coordinator

Work Sign-in Sheet: Planned work days will have a sign in sheet available to report date, completed time, plot and name. Independent hours may be reported via email to timekeeper or on the sign-in sheet in the garden shed.

15. Water Usage:

Use water from water tank or hose bibs. Pour water onto ground at base of plant. Avoid overhead sprinkling as it promotes mildew and fungal diseases. Please try to conserve water. Soaker hoses are not allowed.

Please limit your use of the hose to 15 minutes. Do not use more than one hose at any given time. After watering, be sure to turn off spigot. Make sure other spigots are turned off as well.

Please store your watering can on or near the ground in an inconspicuous location.

16. Tools:

The garden owns tools, carts, wheelbarrows, and buckets for all to use. When you finish using tools, clean them and store neatly:

- ✓ Wheelbarrows should be emptied after rain or turned over to avoid pools of stagnant water for mosquito breeding
- ✓ Power tools, mowers, and rototillers are to be used only by members trained and approved by the Grounds Committee
- ✓ Always close and latch the shed door
- ✓ Tool donations are welcome - please put them in the shed

17. Pets are not allowed inside the perimeter fence of the garden.

18. Penalties (to be decided by Garden committee) for not following Good Neighbor rules:

- ❖ No guarantee to have the same plot the next year
- ❖ Reduction in plot size for the next year
- ❖ Name moved to the bottom of plot waiting list
- ❖ No plot assignment for the next year

Garden Perks

Sifted compost and wood chips ~ are provided from time to time and are kept in piles near the north entrance. Please take only as much as you need so the supply is shared with all.

Garden Compost ~ Currently, there is no room for a large compost site at the garden. Individual may create compost within their plot. Compost is decomposed organic matter. It can include weeds, dried grass cuttings, chopped leaves, and leafy kitchen scraps. It is used to enrich soil and can be added every time soil is turned. Compost does not include animal products (except egg shells) or pet waste. Weed seeds, sticks, stones, plastic and other inorganic waste should be excluded. Please take home any diseased plants or plant material.

Straw ~ a bulk straw/marsh hay purchase will take place in early May. Gardeners will receive $\frac{1}{2}$ bale straw from the garden. Additional bales may be purchased with the order. Please request from the garden coordinator.

Perennial Gardens ~ Border communal flower beds were donated to beautify our gardens. If you would like to help with maintenance and earn work hours, contact Michael Peterson, Ruth Cadoret, or Pat Soderholm.

Plant-A-Row ~ Gardeners are encouraged to donate surplus produce to local food pantries. Any plots abandoned after June 15 may be set aside for this purpose.

Rototilling ~ If you would like your plot rototilled, please contact the Garden Coordinator. A nominal fee is required to cover fuel and maintenance costs.

Fall Clean-up ~ All gardens must be cleared of dead plant material, weeds and plant supports by the second week in October. Gardening of fall crops may continue as long as weather permits.

My Garden Journal