

# 2023 Cumberland Community Garden Additional Guidelines

## Garden Plot Boundaries

- The **4 ft x 16 ft plot area** is bounded by the wooden border. You may not extend your garden outside the plot area. Plants or structures must be planted or built within this plot area.
- **Plants, parts of plants or structures outside of the plot area may be trimmed or removed by the Garden Chairperson or WL Parks Department personnel if not dealt with within 7 days of being notified.**
- **Fencing or enclosing the entire plot is not allowed.** For plant protection, a small enclosure, no more than 16 square feet in area, is permissible.

## Paths

- Paths must be kept clear, level, and covered with woodchips. Personal items left on the path will be removed by the Garden Chairperson.
- **Path maintenance is the joint responsibility of the gardeners on both sides of the path.**
- Individual gardeners can be held legally liable for any injuries caused by poor maintenance of a path adjacent to their plot.

## Weeds

- All plots and adjacent paths and open areas must be maintained weed-free throughout the year.

## Plot Use and Structures

- Plants need sunlight. Locate tall plants and structures where they do not excessively shade plants in adjacent garden plots. Excessive shade is defined as the shade reaching any of the neighboring plots between 9 am and 4 pm.
- **Trees, grapevines, and other large perennials are not allowed.**
- **Disruptive soil digging beyond 12 inches is not allowed.** If a gardener is considering growing and harvesting tubers longer than 12 inches, such as Asian yams, they **MUST** use the lateral growing (i.e., gutter) method.
- Only one side of the garden plot can have vertical trellis-like, open, airy structures for supporting climbing vegetables, vines or flowers. Poles, stakes, cages and other supports that are used for plants are allowed. **All structures and plant supports need to use materials intended for gardening or outdoor usage. Wood pieces, such as baseboards and trims, and tree branches are not allowed.** The structures or plant supports cannot be higher than 6 feet and may not cause excessive shade in neighboring plots. **All structures are subject to approval and/or removal based upon Garden Chairperson and Park staff discretion.**
- Decorative garden elements must be constructed and installed in a safe and secure manner so they are not easily dislodged, pushed over, or otherwise pose a hazard.

## Parking

- During West Lafayette School sporting events and the Farmers Market, the parking lot may be congested. Gardeners are advised to avoid using the main parking lot and find alternate area to park.

## Governing Authority

- The Cumberland Community Garden is a part of the Cumberland Park, City of West Lafayette. The WL Parks and Recreation Department is the governing authority in providing guidelines and imposing restrictions on the use of the garden plot.
- Gardeners are expected to follow rules, guidelines and respect other park users.
- Any issues associated with the Cumberland Community Garden will be communicated through Tippecanoe County Extension Office and the Garden Chairperson.
- Implementation of the garden use guidelines is delegated to the Garden Chairperson.

**Upon discovering an infraction (not requiring immediate correction), notification will be given to the gardener and must be corrected within 7 days. If not corrected the Garden Chairperson or Park staff will**

**take appropriate action. All infractions requiring immediate correction will be handled by the Garden Chairperson or Park Staff, and do not require notification to the gardener beforehand.**