Duke Farms Community Garden

Participation Agreement 2025

Gardeners are required to fulfill the following obligations annually to maintain membership in the Community Garden

1. **COMMUNICATION**: Maintain a valid email address. This will be the primary form of communication between staff and gardeners. Gardeners also must join the Duke Farms Community Garden Slack Channel for emergency alerts, updates, & general communication. Any changes in the email associated with your account are to be reported within 3 business days.
2. **MAINTENANCE**: Plots must be food-centric with at least 50% fruit/vegetable crops. Gardeners must comply with all maintenance expectations listed in the Duke Farms Community Garden Handbook. Surveys will be done weekly between April 15 and October 31. If a gardener receives a notice, it must be addressed within one week.
3. **CONTINUING EDUCATION**: Attend 1 environmental course of your choice through Duke Farms or another suitable vendor. Record title in your *Online Garden Profile* on the Community Garden membership page in order to receive credit. All gardeners are required to attend the Preseason Garden Meeting. NOTE: *First-year gardeners must complete 3 courses total: Orientation, Intro to Organic Gardening (online) and 1 elective*.
4. **VOLUNTEER**: Complete 4 hours of volunteer time at Duke Farms for your first garden plot, plus 1 hour for each additional plot. Record hours in your *Online Garden Profile* on the Community Garden webpage in order to receive credit.
5. **CODE OF CONDUCT:** Please be courteous in the garden at all times. You are expected to review all safety, security and conduct expectations as stated in the Duke Farms Community Garden Handbook.

Duke Farms has a Zero Tolerance Policy for the following. Any violation of this will result in expulsion from the Community Garden at the discretion of the staff.

- **Harassment:** Duke Farms is committed to managing a garden community that is free of unlawful discrimination and harassment. Inappropriate verbal, written, or physical actions are considered harassment.
- **Harming wildlife:** Duke Farms is a center for environmental stewardship and the conservation of wildlife is of the utmost importance.
- **Theft:** Each plot is private property. Rotting produce or weediness are not means for entering another plot without explicit permission.

By registering for membership in the Duke Farms Community Garden, you are acknowledging and will abide by:

- all guidelines expressed in the participation agreement
- the Duke Farms Community Garden Handbook
- all written ongoing communications stating guideline clarification or new guidelines.