

Feb 4, 2016

Dear Lake City Community Gardeners,

The gardening season will soon be here, and so it's time to officially renew your 2016 garden plot. We are attaching the information you need to do so. Here are the steps you need to take:

1. **Read** the Community Garden Guidelines and Rules – there are a few changes from last year.
2. **Print, fill out and sign** the Application and Waiver form.
3. **Mail** your completed registration form with the deposit check **before March 8th** to

Larry Foster
112 Hillwood Drive
Lake City, MN 55041

We are registering returning gardeners by mail again this year to avoid the crowds on registration day.

We must receive your Application and Waiver form by March 8th so we know how many plots are available for new gardeners. Plots not renewed by the 8th will be made available to new gardeners.

Community Gardening News:

A **refundable deposit** will be required for each garden plot again for 2016. Since this policy was implemented we have had excellent compliance with the clean-up regulations when the season ends. The deposit will be refunded to those who abide by the guidelines and clean-up their plots. The requirements for cleaning up the plots at the end of the season are spelled out in the guidelines. The deposits that are forfeited will be used to pay for the clean-up of the non-complying plots.

We have learned a lot from the past seven years of operating the community garden. The partnership with the City of Lake City has been very beneficial. As a way of returning the goodwill extended by the city we are once again asking gardeners to donate produce to the Lake City Food Shelf. The approach used last summer was successful so we are continuing the approach again this year. They have a much larger cooler in the new facility so can handle more produce!

Corner stakes are at the corners of each plot. Please do not remove these stakes – they have been selected to provide better visibility and to create a safer environment for our gardeners.

We look forward to hearing back from all of you! If you will not be returning please drop a note to Jim Schreck and let him know.

Sincerely,

The Community Garden Committee

Georgene Arndt, Julie McDevitt, Jim Schreck, Larry Foster, Rick Panther and Larry Himanga