

Anderson Island Historical Society

Community Garden Plot Rental Agreement

The mission of the community gardens is to serve the Anderson Island Community by providing garden plots that let residents grow and harvest organic produce and flowers in a safe, supportive and healthy environment.

Our goal is to:

- Maintain the integrity of the farm.
- Encourage sustainability by eliminating the use of pesticides and herbicides, building healthy soils, and using efficient watering systems.
- Work in partnership with other members to create attractive and productive gardens.
- Increase gardening skills.
- Gain personal satisfaction in planning and maintaining your garden plot.

To have a garden at the farm, you must be a member of the Anderson Island Historical Society and a full-time island resident during the growing season. Garden rentals must be renewed annually. The annual garden fee is \$40 in addition to the Anderson Island Historical Society dues, which are \$20.

It is our hope that all gardeners will take an active interest in the farm and help preserve it and the history it represents. We encourage you to join the work parties every Wednesday. As a community garden member, we need your help in maintaining the central paths and outside edges of the gardens.

Returning gardeners are allowed to retain their annual site if application is received by February 15. Other applications are processed on a first-come first-served basis. If a person on the waiting list passes up a garden, his/her name goes to the end of the list.

All gardeners must comply with the following rules and regulations, which have been approved by the Anderson Island Historical Society Board of Directors.

- a. Community gardens are to be used for recreational gardening and growing vegetables and flowers for family use. Produce and flowers are not to be sold unless as a fundraiser for the AIHS.
- b. Watering must be done by hand or with soaker hoses or other drip irrigation methods. Timers may be used. No overhead sprinklers are permitted.
- c. Use of herbicides, pesticides, and synthetic fertilizers are prohibited, as they are toxic to the environment. Sustainable gardening methods are required. All gardeners are requested to apply organic practices.
- d. Weeds must be under control throughout the year as determined by the Garden Coordinator.
- e. Any garden that has not been worked or shows signs of neglect by May 1 will be reassigned without refund. The entire garden must be utilized.
- f. Weeds and other garden debris are to be placed in the trailer between the two sheds. Please do not put plastic or other non-compostable materials in the trailer. Stones

removed from the gardens are to be dumped near the propane tank south of the farmhouse.

- g. When sharing a garden, the primary gardener is responsible for the status of the garden.
- h. Do not take any produce from other gardens unless you have the other gardener's specific permission.
- i. Gates are to be kept closed and latched at all times. Engage the lock when leaving the site.
- j. Do not attach anything, including vines, to the perimeter fence or fence posts. Keep grass, weeds and tools away from all fences and keep pathways clear of weeds, waste and rocks.
- k. In the fall, please clear your garden of dead plant material and place it in the compost trailer. This reduces disease and habitats for insects.
- l. **Dogs are not permitted in the gardens.** Pets in the vicinity of the gardens must be leashed and poop must be scooped and properly disposed of.
- m. Hoses and garden tools must be placed neatly in the garden.
- n. Please do not expand your designated plot. Allow space for spreading crops. Do not let plants encroach on others' plots or onto the walkways.
- o. All gardeners are requested to apply organic practices.
- p. Before any structure can be erected in a garden, a proposal must be submitted to the AIHS Board of Directors for approval. A gardener who does not intend to renew his or her contract for the following year must remove any structure in the garden plot.
- q. Notify the Garden Coordinator if you decide to release your plot. There is no refund if you decide to release your plot before the end of the season.
- r. Gardeners who continually fail to follow the rules will receive a written warning. A second breach of the rules will result in termination of the contract for the plot.

I agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Anderson Island Historical Society, its Board Members and agents from all suits and actions, including reasonable attorneys' fees and all costs of litigation and judgment of every name and description against the Society as a result of loss, damage or injury to person or property by reason of my actions or omission by myself for the purpose of using, visiting or working in a garden plot at the Johnson Farm.

Signed: _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____ (Home) _____ (Cell)

Email _____

If your contact information changes, notify the Garden Coordinator. You may receive periodic emails about conditions in the garden, events and educational programs.