



Naperville
Park District™

Naperville Park District 2010 Garden Plot Guidelines

Welcome gardeners to the Naperville Park District's 37th year of the Community Garden Program. Gardening is an enjoyable and rewarding activity for both individuals and families. The benefit and satisfaction received from participating in a community garden comes not only in the harvesting of food for the table, but in developing new friendships with people who have a common interest.

We hope you have a wonderful gardening experience!

Plot Information and Identification

The Garden Plots are located on West Street, across from Knoch Park. **Weather dependent, the program will run from April 24 through October 10.** Plots will be staked and ready for planting at the earliest possible date with consideration to weather and soil conditions. No refunds after April 24, 2010.

Garden plots are identified with a numbered wooden stake placed in the center of each plot. Four corner flags also mark each plot. Adjoining plots will have common flags. Please do not remove the numbered stake and corner flags. The Park District has both full and half sized garden plots; full plots are marked with a number and single letter; half sized plots are marked with a number and double letter. For example, full plots are 7A, 8A, 9A, etc; half plots are 1DD, 2DD, 3DD, etc.

Gardeners' Responsibilities

The Park District requests that gardeners assume certain responsibilities for their plot(s):

- All plots must be planted by June 1. The Park District may reassign unplanted plots, without refund, after this date.
- Before planting, check the numbered stake to be certain you are on the correct plot. If you are not sure of your plot number, contact the Park District before planting. The Park District is not responsible for costs incurred for replanting.
- Gardeners should maintain each plot to its boundaries, from corner flag to corner flag. It is suggested that you use string to mark the boundary of your plot lines. This makes the boundaries visible to the mower. The Park District will take care of areas surrounding the garden site.

- Gardeners may bring bagged clippings from home for use in their individual plots. The dumpsters are for **Garden Plot waste only** and are not to be used for yard waste from home.
- Gardeners are expected to weed their garden and keep it neat. Trash barrels are provided; do not leave weeds in aisles. If weeds are allowed to grow 10" tall, the Park District has the right to mow the entire plot. In such cases, a phone call warning will be issued. Gardeners will then have one week to weed before the plot is mowed.
- If the Park District has to take over your plot due to lack of maintenance, you will not receive priority registration for the following year. These measures are taken in hopes that this will help with plot abandonment and maintenance.
- Plastic bags, rocks, string, wooden stakes or other materials should not be left in the garden aisles. The objects can be very dangerous and destructive when mowing. It is the gardener's responsibility to remove these items from his/her plot at the end of each season.

Watering Reminders

Please note that **hoses are not allowed** and you must transport your water using other means. Any exceptions must be approved by the Park District.

Organic Section

Plots R-V have been designated organic. The use of pesticides, fungicides and herbicides are not permitted in this area. Park District personnel will not use these chemicals as well, but will continue with an appropriate level of maintenance.

Parking

Parking for vehicles with a vehicle pass is located along the garden plot roadways and in the parking lot. Passes are issued upon registration. The pass must be placed on the rear-view mirror or dashboard.

Persons without a vehicle on site must have their **User Permit/Vehicle Pass** in their possession while on site. **Violators may be ticketed for trespassing.**

New for 2010: Temporary "No Parking" areas will be designated on weekends during the month of May. Parking will be limited to one side of the road on the interior lanes of the garden plots in order to improve traffic flow and maintain emergency vehicle access routes during times when numerous vehicles are at the plots. If successful, "No Parking" areas may be expanded to other timeframes. The enclosed map illustrates areas that will be designated as temporary "No Parking."

Garden Plot Help Desks

We are pleased to announce that the University of Illinois Extension will host garden plots help desks on July 10 and August 14 from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Community Garden Plots. The desks will be staffed by DuPage County Master Gardeners. The Master Gardeners are a group of volunteers trained by University of Illinois Extension educators to provide a network of gardening and horticultural programs to educate the public. The help desks will be a wonderful opportunity to receive expert advice on gardening!

NAPERVILLE PARK DISTRICT
320 WEST JACKSON AVENUE
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60540
630.848.5000 • FAX 630.848.5001
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Tips for Good Gardening

- While the Park District tills the soil at the beginning of the season, gardeners may need to till again just prior to planting.
- Mulching is a necessary part of your garden because it provides a protective covering for the soil. Mulching also controls weeds, saves moisture, and prevents the soil temperature from rising too high.
- Arrange crops properly. For example, early maturing crops, such as lettuce and radishes, can be planted between slower growing crops, such as tomatoes, peppers and corn.
- Keep in mind that taller plants tend to shade smaller plants, so be sure to put the tall plants to one side of the garden.
- Vine plants should be planted away from the garden plot aisles for better protection. Otherwise, they risk damage by mowers.

The Park District will not be responsible for theft, damage, vandalism or any other acts of destruction, loss or irresponsibility. **To report vandalism, call Park Police at 630-601-0925 or Park Watch at 630-848-5050.**

Food Donations

If you have extra produce please consider donating it. You may leave your surplus at the kiosk located near the driveway south of the garden plots. The produce will be donated to Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry or the Martin Avenue Senior Citizen residence. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Nonprofit Groups

If your nonprofit group would like to harvest a garden plot this summer and donate its product to the hungry, please contact the Naperville Park District and you may receive a free plot, if available, after June 1. All garden plot guidelines and responsibilities apply.



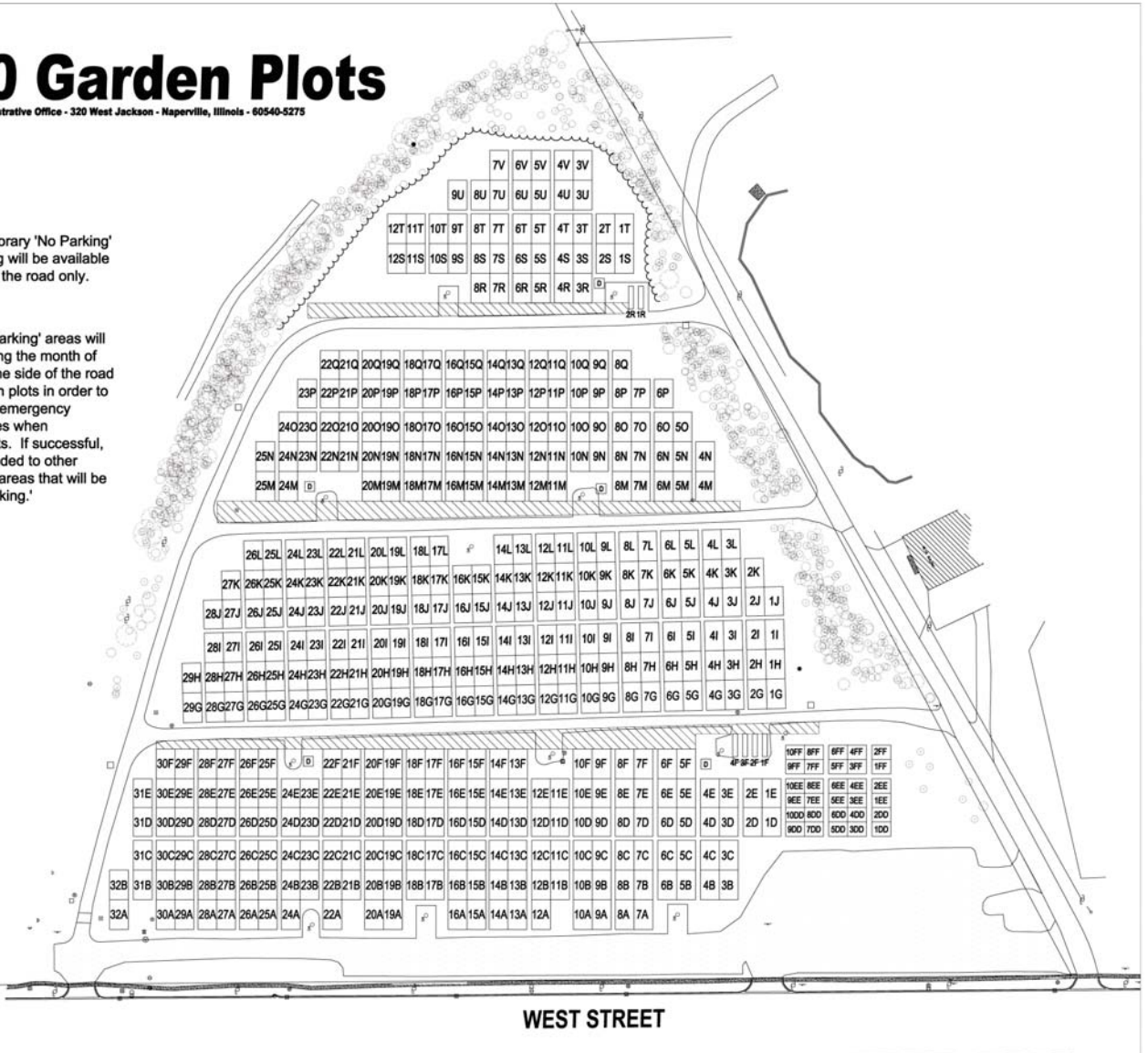
2010 Garden Plots

Administrative Office - 320 West Jackson - Naperville, Illinois - 60540-5275



Signifies temporary 'No Parking' areas. Parking will be available on one side of the road only.

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WEST STREET