

## Hickory Neck Church Garden Covenant

God has called each of us to be good stewards of our resources. Hickory Neck Episcopal Church is blessed to have a large campus that offers us the opportunity to provide space for gardening. With that resource, we hope to encourage our neighbors to build a community around healthy homegrown food while enjoying the resources of creation that God has given us for our care.

In order to share mutual understanding and expectations, we each agree to follow the current rules and guidelines of this community garden as established by Hickory Neck Church (HNC).

So that we can build a community around this garden, I agree to abide by the following covenant:

1. I agree to utilize organic growing practices. I will not use synthetic chemical fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents that will in any way affect other plots. I will be especially mindful of using sprays that can drift into other plots.
2. I understand that the garden committee is the only entity who can assign garden plots.
3. I understand that I must sign the garden covenant every year and pay a fee for my assigned plot(s). The current fee per individual or family is \$20 for the first plot, \$15 for the second plot, and \$10 each for any additional plots. Income will be used for maintenance of the common areas and to reimburse the church for water use. When I sign up each year, (starting in March), I will communicate about when I plan to begin planting my garden, generally by May 1 of current year.
4. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the garden committee and remove any weed control fabric, stakes, and plant supports, unless specifically given permission not to.
5. If obvious inattention to my plot is noticeable, I understand that I will receive a message from the garden committee. If there is a personal situation that needs attention, please notify the garden committee and allowances may be made. Otherwise, at that time, it may be reassigned.
6. I will keep trash and litter out of the plot, and garden debris out of adjacent pathways and fences. There is a dumpster located across the parking lot (inside the wooden gated area) for trash and litter. Garden debris may be dumped in designated areas away from the plot area.
7. I will plant tall crops only where the impact on neighboring plots will be minimized.
8. I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
9. I understand that pets are not allowed in the garden area.
10. I understand that access to the garden is restricted to one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.
11. I will limit the volume of any music.
12. Vehicle access will be only from the far right side of the parking lot, near the “additional parking” sign. **Pay particular attention to activity near the Kensington School.** There is no access in front of, nor close to, the right side of the church building.
13. I understand that I am not to leave the running garden hose unattended for more than 15 minutes. I will remain in the garden area while watering my plot.
14. The shed is for storage of garden tools and supplies. I will treat tools and garden carts with respect and return them to shed or proper storage area after use. I will put my name on any disposables or garden supplies that I don't intend to share with others. Otherwise, tools will generally be thought of as for use by all gardeners, to be returned to the shed after use. I will lock shed before leaving garden area unless other gardeners are around who are also using it. It is to be locked when the garden area is not being used.

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15. I understand that I should not sell my crops for profit.

By signing this covenant I acknowledge my agreement and willingness to abide by the rules and guidelines.

Additionally, I understand that neither the garden group nor HNC are responsible for my actions. I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN GROUP AND HNC FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Address

\_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

Garden Committee

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The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly 757 566-0276

**Admin**

Date/Amount Paid	Plot(s) Assigned
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