

Community Garden Program at Woottons Mill Park

472 Hurley Avenue | Rockville, MD 20850



The City of Rockville has extensive parks and open spaces, including garden plots located at Woottons Mill Park. Woottons Mill Park features 106.5 acres of land, tennis and basketball courts, forest preserve and nature trail, foot bridge, playground, picnic tables, and grills. The Department of Recreation and Parks is responsible for caring and maintaining our parks. We are committed to offering a variety of recreational opportunities for all residents. Owned and operated by the City of Rockville, Maryland.

The Community Garden Program at Wootton Mills Park is managed by:

Rockville Civic Center Business Office
(located at Glenview Mansion)
603 Edmonston Drive
Rockville, MD 20851
240-314-8660 (phone) | 240-314-8669 (fax)
woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov

**All times listed within this information packet is Eastern Standard Time.
All information in this packet is subject to change.**

Table of Contents

2025 Community Garden Plot Map (Woottons Mill Park)..... 3

Important Program Changes Effective in the 2025 Season 4

Plot Inspections and Violation Policy 4

Program Fees 4

Program Dates 5

Registration Dates for Rockville Residents 5

Registration Dates for Non-Rockville Residents 5

General Information 5

City of Rockville Provisions 5

Conditions of Use 6

 Communication Rules..... 6

 Safety Rules 6

 Plot Access Rules 6

 Plot Markers & Equipment Rules..... 7

 Gardening, Maintenance & Planting Rules..... 7

 Fencing and Structure Rules 7

 Courtesy Rules 8

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

2025 Community Garden Plot Map (Woottons Mill Park)

		159A 159B		160			161	162			163	164			165			166			167	168			169	170			171	172			173		
		141	walk aisle	142	143	walk aisle	144	145	walk aisle	146	147	walk aisle	148	149	walk aisle	150	151	walk aisle	152	153	walk aisle	154	155	walk aisle	156	157	walk aisle	158	walk aisle	159	160	walk aisle	161		
122	123	124		125	126		127	128		129	130		131	132		133	134		135	136		137	138		139	140		141		142	143				
103	104	105		106	107		108	109		110	111		112	113		114	115		116	117		118	119		120	121A		121B		122	123		124		
85	86	87		88	89		90	91		92	93		94	95A 95B		96	97		98	99		100	101		102	103		104		105	106				
		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle		walk aisle			
				67	68	walk aisle	69	70	walk aisle	71	72A 72B	walk aisle	73	74	walk aisle	75	76	walk aisle	77	78	walk aisle	79	80	walk aisle	81	82	walk aisle	83	84	walk aisle	85	86	walk aisle	87	
50	51			52	53		54	55		56	57		58	59		60	61		62	63		64	65		66	67		68	69						
33	34			35	36		37	38		39	40		41	42		43	44		45	46		47A 47B	48		49	50		51	52						
17	18			19	20		21	22		23	24		25	26		27	28		29	30		31	32		33	34		35	36		37				
1A 1B	2			3	4			5	6				7	8			9	10			11	12			13	14			15	16			17	18	
parking lot																																			

Each plot is approximately 20 feet x 20 feet (plots with A or B are 10' x 20').

Plots are not to scale in this map.

 indicates a water spigot.

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

Important Program Changes Effective in the 2025 Season

After the renewal period is complete, some garden plots will be reduced in size to approximately 200 square feet. To ensure you keep your existing garden plots, be sure to register during the renewal period, if you are eligible. Plots are not transferable. If you want a smaller garden plot, try to register for one during open registration (subject to availability).

The Department of Recreation and Parks wants to ensure Rockville residents have the opportunity to participate in the Community Garden Program at Woottons Mill Park each season. If you are a non-Rockville resident who is currently enrolled in the program and is eligible to renew your existing garden plots, you will be “grandfathered” into the renewal period each season. However, if you do not renew your existing garden plots for whatever reason in any season, you will be ineligible to renew again. You can participate in the program through open registration.

Plot Inspections and Violation Policy

The plots are subject to regular inspections. Failure to abide by the rules set out under the Conditions of Use section will result in the loss of your plot. If a plot is not in compliance with the Conditions of Use, a written violation notification will be sent to the program participant by e-mail. A follow-up inspection will be performed approximately 2 weeks after the first e-mail notice. If the plot is still not in compliance, the plot will be revoked and returned to Rockville Civic Center Business Office for re-assignment and the entire program fee will be forfeited (see pg. 8 for more violation information).

Following these guidelines will ensure our community garden program thrives:

- On April 1st, gardeners must begin working in their assigned plot including weeding, soil amendment, and cultivation.
- By June 1st, most of the plot space must be planted.
- By November 16th, gardeners must remove weeds, dead plants, and summer debris from plots.
- During the entire gardening season, dead plants and those that have stopped producing should be removed promptly.

Program Fees

Rockville Residents:	\$80 per plot for the season
Non-Rockville Residents:	\$90 per plot for the season

Payment is due immediately upon enrollment. Program fees will not be refunded or prorated. All plots are the property of the City of Rockville, Maryland and are not transferrable. Plots that are given up or are revoked for cause will be returned to the Rockville Civic Center Business Office for re-assignment.

If paying by credit card online, MasterCard and Visa only are accepted. If paying by cash or check (made payable to the City of Rockville), please enroll in-person at the Rockville Civic Center Business Office and bring a valid form of ID (e.g., driver’s license, utility bill, lease). If you can’t enroll in-person, please contact us at woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8660 to make other arrangements. You will be given a deadline by which your payment must be received by mail. Do not mail cash. The Rockville Civic Center Business Office is located at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20851. Hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm (closed for lunch from 1pm-2pm). Check our [website](#) to learn when the venue is closed due to private events.

The Rockville resident program fee applies to those owning property or living within the corporate tax district of the City of Rockville. The registration permit must be in the name of the Rockville resident and the home address must be located within incorporated Rockville, Maryland. The Rockville resident program rate is only available at the time of enrollment and will not be applied later. Check your residency using the [GIS City Map](#).

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

Program Dates

Dates are approximate and based on weather.

- Program participants may access their garden plot starting on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at sunrise.
- Program participants must completely clean/clear out their plots by Sunday, November 16, 2025 at sunset.

Registration Dates for Rockville Residents

- Renewal begins on Monday, November 25, 2024 at 9:00am.
- Renewal ends on Sunday, December 29, 2025 at 11:59pm.
- Open registration begins on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 9:00am.
- Open registration ends on Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 11:59pm.

Registration Dates for Non-Rockville Residents

If you do not renew your existing garden plots for whatever reason in any season, you will be ineligible to renew again. You can participate in the program through open registration.

- Renewal begins on Monday, November 25, 2024 at 9:00am.
- Renewal ends on Sunday, December 29, 2025 at 11:59pm.
- Open registration begins on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 9:00am.
- Open registration ends on Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 11:59pm.

General Information

1. The community garden at Woottons Mill Park is located at 472 Hurley Avenue in Rockville, Maryland.
2. Most plots are approximately 400 square feet. All plot sizes are approximate and variation in size and shape from plot to plot each season is normal. After the renewal period is complete, some garden plots will be reduced in size to approximately 200 square feet.
3. Plots are rented as-is (in current condition) and are the responsibility of the new program participant to clear/clean out.
4. Plots are tilled annually before April 1 (further tilling by the program participant is recommended).
5. The number of available plots may vary year-to-year and all available plots are first-come, first-served and plots may not be held.
6. A program participant may rent more than one garden plot per season.
7. There is a parking lot located at Woottons Mill Park. Park in marked spaces only and parking in front of the dumpster is not permitted. There is no vehicle access to the plot area for unloading supplies, so be prepared with a wagon or wheelbarrow. Do not drive into the park for this is a violation punishable by a \$200 fine per [Sec. 14-53 Sub\(b\)](#).
8. Registered participants in the Woottons Mill Garden Plot Program shall be fully responsible for and shall indemnify and hold the City of Rockville harmless from any damage to or loss of objects or property and for any personal injury incurred during or as a result of City property use. Participating in this program is at your own risk.
9. Rockville, Maryland Code of Ordinances applies to the Community Garden Program at Woottons Mill Park: https://library.municode.com/md/rockville/codes/code_of_ordinances

City of Rockville Provisions

1. The plots will be staked, marked with string, and numbered with a small utility flag placed in the center of the plot.
2. The City of Rockville does not provide fencing; however, fencing is required to be installed by each renter.
3. The maintenance crew mows the area surrounding the garden perimeter every 2 weeks from April through October annually. To avoid damaging any fencing, a grass buffer is left surrounding the plots. Unassigned plots or abandoned plots will be cut down once per month only.

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

4. Organic bins are located around the perimeter of the community garden. These bins are to be used for weeds, plants, rock, and soil debris only. All other debris must be placed in the dumpster located in the parking lot area. Be sure to separate items accordingly. Do not place trash in front of the dumpster, trucks will not be able to empty the trash bin.
5. A wood chip pile is located on-site. These wood chips may be used in the plots to maintain the weeds, as well as along the pathways that access the plots. All gardeners are welcome to use the wood chips at the garden site on a first-come, first-served basis. Replenishing the wood chip pile only occurs when the Parks crew completes projects throughout the City of Rockville that create wood chips (e.g., tree trimming, removal of wood piles, etc.). There is no set schedule for wood chips to be delivered.
6. There are water spigots throughout the community garden for registered program participant use.
7. City of Rockville staff may empty water containers that are not sealed tightly to help reduce mosquito problems.

Conditions of Use

Communication Rules

1. Gardeners must maintain a current mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number on file with the Rockville Civic Center Business Office. Any changes must be updated in CivicRec and sent to woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov.
2. Notify the Rockville Civic Center Business Office at woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov if you are away or not able to keep up with maintenance tasks due to travel, illness, or other circumstance.

Safety Rules

1. Gardeners are not allowed to trap animals (ground hogs, raccoons, rabbits, etc.) in the community garden or Woottons Mill Park at any time. Gardeners experiencing any issues with wild animals at the garden plot site must call the Rockville Animal Control Services at 240-314-8937.
2. If the weather includes thunder, lightning or high winds, all program participants must leave the community garden and Woottons Mill Park until the conditions change and safe use of the outdoor areas is appropriate. High winds easily blow gardening equipment and plantings out of place and down tree branches. Picnic shelters are not a safe environment during lightning storms or high winds. Lightning storms travel faster than you think and may not be accurately reflected on radar weather maps.
3. If you observe illegal activities in the garden plots and/or park, contact the Rockville City Police Department immediately to report the incident and file a report.

Phone Number to Non-Emergency Police Dispatch: 240-314-8900

Urgent or Life-Threatening Emergencies: Call 911

Plot Access Rules

1. Public access hours of the community garden and Woottons Mill Park is sunrise to sunset.
2. Use of garden plots outside of the season date range is strictly prohibited. Use of a garden plot before the season begins or failure to clear your plot by the deadline will result in a \$100 fine per plot and the participant will not be allowed to register for the next season. Failure to pay any fine will result in your City of Rockville CivicRec account being frozen. You may not register or rent any other City of Rockville property including community centers, picnic sites, senior center, nature center, swim center, or any other entity owned and operated by the City of Rockville until the fine is paid in full.
3. By the season end date, clear all items from the garden plot site. All trash and garden debris must be removed. Organic disposal bins are available throughout the clean-up process for organic materials, weeds, plants, rock, and soil debris only. All fencing, caging, weed barrier, containers, hoses, tools, and other garden supplies must be removed from the community garden and Woottons Mill Park property. There is no storage at the community garden from one season to another. The Rockville Civic Center Business Office will email detailed cleanup instructions before the season end date.

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

Plot Markers & Equipment Rules

1. Be sure to locate the correct plot you rented. Those who plant in the wrong plot will be required to clear the plot before moving to the correct plot.
2. Always keep plot markers upright and visible. Gardeners shall not relocate any plot markers. Plot markers are not to be used as fencing material, plant structures, or watering can holders.
3. Gardeners must provide their own tools and take their tools home when they are done for the day. Gardeners are also responsible to provide their own, fencing, weed barrier materials, and plants. The garden plots are in an open public park. It is recommended that all items be labelled with a name and plot number.
4. Gardeners are responsible to bring their own hoses and a splitter to connect to the water source so that multiple gardeners may use the water spigot at the same time. Do not leave your hose connected to the water spigot. For safety reasons, all hoses must be rolled up and returned to the plot. Alternatively, the hose must be buried along the pathway if you do not return the hose to the plot to prevent tripping/falling hazards. Hoses in violation will be removed. The City of Rockville is not responsible for hoses that have been removed because of violating this rule.
5. Ensure there is no encroachment into paths or other garden plots. Gardeners must store all tools, wheelbarrows, and other items inside the garden plot they are renting. Do not store items in the garden paths. Garden paths must be kept open and clear of all items – no tools, wheelbarrows, or garden debris may be stored or left on the garden paths. Items left in the paths are subject to removal.
6. Plastic weed barrier material must be contained within the plot and not extend into the walkway aisle space. Wood chips are the only material to be used in the aisles.

Gardening, Maintenance & Planting Rules

1. Gardeners are responsible to maintain their entire plot, adjacent paths, and adjacent interior and exterior fence lines by weeding and spreading wood chips.
2. Work in your garden plot at least once every week to maintain weeding, cultivating, watering, and harvesting. Weeds must never reach taller than 10 inches in height at any time and crops must be harvested when ready.
3. Growing tall plants such as corn or sunflowers is very limited. Tall plants should only be planted if they will not shade neighboring plots. Tall plants must be placed in the center of the plot to avoid this situation as much as possible.
4. Only plants that perform their entire life cycle from seed to flower within a single season are permitted in this program. This allows for complete clean up at the end of season.
5. Invasive plants are not allowed in the garden. Aggressive plants like mint, lemon balm, plants that reproduce multiple seeds, and similar plants must be grown in above-ground containers.
6. Organic practices with an emphasis on good sanitation are strongly encouraged in all parks of the community garden. Sanitation practices include handpicking pests, using row covers, pruning or digging out diseased plants, and physically removing weeds.
7. The use of insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers, etc. is prohibited.
8. To improve the soil, manage weeds and pests, and maintain the garden's appearance, applying mulch, newspaper, or cardboard is strongly recommended. Carpet, stone, and sod mulch are not allowed.
9. A violation of open water containers may result in the revocation of your plot.
10. Hoarding water from the spigots is not allowed and practice water conservation. Gardeners must be present when watering and do not leave water running unattended.
11. Do not place burlap, plastic, or paper materials in the organic bins.

Fencing and Structure Rules

1. Gardeners must erect their own fencing within their plot boundaries. There are a variety of fencing materials that are allowed. For example, metal fencing, wood fencing and mesh fencing are options. If using mesh fencing, the mesh pattern must $\frac{3}{4}$ square in diameter or larger and higher than 3' from the ground. Mesh fencing may not be used if less than 3 feet from the ground.

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM AT WOOTTONS MILL PARK

You agree to follow all terms and conditions listed in this information packet when registering for the program.

2. The fencing materials must not create tripping or other safety hazards and must be neutral in color such as black, grey, green, silver (red, yellow, orange is not okay). Fences must always be kept weeded.
3. The City of Rockville reserves the right to remove fences that are unsightly or negatively affect gardeners or other plots. Removal will be at the gardener's expense.
4. Structures such as trellises, wood ladders or other support systems built within a plot are permitted, but limited to 4 feet high, and must always be kept weeded. Any other types of structures may not be erected without written approval from the Rockville Civic Center Business Office (send all requests to woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov).

Courtesy Rules

1. Respect your fellow gardeners and City of Rockville staff. Verbal, physical, and personal attacks or harassment are strictly prohibited. If there is a situation you are unable to resolve, please contact the Rockville Civic Center Business Office at woottonsmill@rockvillemd.gov.
2. City of Rockville parks are smoke-free and vaping-free. Woottons Mill Park is also alcohol-free.
3. Loud or amplified music is prohibited.
4. Visitors are not permitted in the community garden unless accompanied by a current registered program participant.
5. Children are welcome to garden and must always be supervised by their parent or guardian.
6. Pets are not allowed in the community garden area (service animals specifically trained to aid a disabled person are allowed).
7. Gardeners should not enter the plots of other gardeners without permission from the registered program participant.
8. Gardeners are not allowed to borrow or use anything without permission of the owner. Taking produce, equipment, or other items from another gardener may result in the revocation of your plot, which will be returned to Rockville Civic Center Business Office for re-assignment, and the entire program fee will be forfeited.

Violations List

#	Violation Description	Violation Action (If issue is not resolved by deadline)
1	Overgrown with weeds	Loss of plot
2	Plot overgrown and partially unmaintained	Loss of plot
3	Plot overgrown and unmaintained	Loss of plot
4	Driving into the park Sec. 14-53 Sub(b)	\$200 fine
5	Incorrect fencing color (red, yellow, orange)	\$100 fine
6	Encroachment into paths	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
7	Invasive plants	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
8	Tall plants	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
9	Use of insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
10	Use of carpet, stone, sod	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
11	Open water containers	1st time: \$100 fine 2nd time: Loss of plot
12	End of Season clean up not completed	\$100 fine and Loss of plot/cannot renew
