

# Kaysville's "Hometown" Community Garden

## Description and Guidelines

The Kaysville Yard and Garden Civic Committee in collaboration with the Kaysville Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a community garden. A plot in this garden is available to any resident who desires to participate. Gardening offers healthy exercise as well as vegetable produce which enhances good nutrition. A community garden also adds a wholesome and cooperative spirit to the city as well as providing a sense of connection. The land for this garden is located at 478 South Main. Participants are encouraged to park on the side street of 478 South and avoid parking on Main street.

### Garden Stewards

Brent & Carol Barney, 801-663-8002; 801-544-2054

Derek Miller, Garden Manager, 801-544-3460

Ron Zollinger, Chairman, Kaysville Yard and Garden Civic Committee, 801-682-9832

### Shared Space.

Our community garden will be inclusive and welcoming to all people. Priority space, however, will be offered to Kaysville city residents. Garden participants will not be discriminated on the basis of race, creed, color, national, or ethnic origin, religious, marital status, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability. Our community garden is a shared space arrangement. As such participants will need to be considerate of other gardeners and their plants.

### Benefits and Rewards.

Community gardens are common ground for growing plants that feed, heal, and give aesthetic pleasure. They become a civic space where people work to nourish themselves, their families, and friends. Gardeners' shared labor builds a stronger sense of belonging to their physical environment as well as encouraging interaction with nature and nurturing green spaces. Community gardens are also places of cultural exchange, sprouting new friendships among diverse groups of people.

By choosing to be in a community garden, you'll be gardening in close proximity to others. You can learn from other gardeners either actively (by asking questions) or passively (by observation). People of diverse backgrounds may garden differently. You may be surprised at what you'll learn even if you've been gardening many years.

### Fee Assessment.

There will be a use fee of \$10.00 assessed to each plot. These fees will be used toward the purchase of support materials, watering systems and some tools that may be made available to participants. This land is currently owned by the Cottrell family who are an advocate for our enterprise.

### Safety Issues.

Personal tools should not be left at the plot or unattended. Rebar or other metal staking is not allowed. Tomato cages and trellis structures must be removed at the end of the growing season in order for the plot to be tilled for the winter. Every attempt will be made to create irrigation lines and controls which are secure and safe for public use. A first aid kit and emergency contacts will be available during operating hours at the city hall. Liability waivers will be required for all gardeners and volunteers. The closest public restroom services available during normal hours of operation are at the Autumn Glow Senior Center and the Kaysville city library.

**Plot Assignment & ADA Services.**

Participants will be entitled to one plot. Plots will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Sizes may vary based upon availability and projected needs. Plots will be assigned contiguous until the total area is filled to capacity. There will be one (or more) plots reserved especially for participants with disabilities with appropriate access services. Each plot will be identified with a laminated name sign.

**A Typical Growing Season.**

A garden plot requires time and constant effort at least seven months out of the year in order to produce a healthy harvest.

**Preparation of soil for planting.**

The land dedicated for our community garden will be power tilled by Kaysville Parks and Recreation department. A soil amendment will also be tilled into the soil as it becomes available in the spring. The soil will be power tilled to a depth of six to eight inches to create an ideal growing environment for seeds or seedlings. Participants are welcome to add into their own soil amendments to enhance the fertility and structure of the soil.

**Watering.**

A drip system will be installed and water lines will extend down through each garden plot. Each plot will have its own control valve. Participants will be responsible to tend to their own watering requirements. Participants may want to consider the use of a top dressing of private or commercial mulch which would help inhibit moisture evaporation as well as to build up soil quality. Water restrictions which are associated with Hights Creek Irrigation users will be expected to be observed. There should be no watering after 10:00 a.m or before 6:00 p.m.

**Weed Control.**

All who participate in our community garden must agree to a weed-free environment. This community garden is intended to help Kaysville become a "City Beautiful." Encouragement is given to not only care for one's own plot but be willing to provide assistance to other plots where needed. Gardeners are encourage to pack out any garbage. No garbage container will exist on-site.

**Equipment.**

Participants will need to bring their own tools or equipment in order to work on and weed their own plot. Such tools may include a hoe, spade, rake, or other planting accessories.

**Planting.**

All participants are responsible to provide their own seeds or seedlings. Chose plants that can be contained within plot dimensions. Avoid overcrowding. Plan for the natural expansion that comes from summer growth. Do not plant invasive type plants that can spread unwanted growth (e.g. many herbs have a spreading habit). Perennials can be grown but all plots will be tilled in the fall.

**Healthy soil leads to healthy plants.**

Our goal is to create and nurture a healthy soil and environment. We encourage garden plant trimmings to be worked back into the soil. In addition, no chemical weed-killers or pesticides are to be used in our community garden. Adding compost is a healthy way to provide added fertilization. Plants will be heathier and more resistant to pests and disease.

**Harvesting.**

As plants mature and begin to produce, participants will be responsible to harvest the fruits of their labor – the best reward of gardening! Keeping ripe produce picked reduces garden pests and vandalism. This community garden is not intended for commercial use. Unused or unwanted produce can be shared with other gardeners, donated to charitable services, or freely given away.

**Preparing for Winter.**

At the end of the season, garden plants should be removed to the green waste container or should be chopped up so that a power tiller can incorporate these plants into the soil. Winter action acts to decompose these plants, adding nutrients back into the soil, which ultimately helps provide for a better harvest in the next growing season.

**Involvement Outside of Your Plot.**

Participants are encouraged to feel a sense of ownership to the whole of our community garden. Help will be appreciated to remove trash that blows in or assisting others who may be out of town for an extended time. This will lend to a spirit of participant cooperation.

**Forfeiture of Garden Privilege.**

Plots will be inspected regularly. Participants which have not planted their plots or have not met these guidelines will be notified. Failure to remedy the situation within 14 days will result in forfeiture of the plot. It is each participant's responsibility to notify a Garden Manager if they are no longer able to tend their plot. If participants plan on being absent for a long period of time, they will be expected to arrange for the care of their plot.

**Community Behavior.**

Participants should harvest their ripe produce regularly to reduce garden pests and vandalism. Taking produce from other plots will not be permitted and will result in immediate loss of gardening privileges and forfeiture of crops. Disrespectful or abusive language, or destructive behavior (including vandalism) may result in the immediate loss of all gardening privileges and forfeiture of crops. Participants are encouraged to resolve amicably any conflicts which may arise between neighboring gardeners. Try to resolve any issue directly. Contact any of our garden stewards if needed. Avoid use of online discussion groups to vent frustrations with other gardeners.

**Family-Friendly.**

Kaysville's community garden is intended to be a family-friendly enterprise. However, care should be taken to monitor small children and provide for their safety. Gardening together as a family can help educate concerning all aspects of the gardening process as well as to help support a healthy work ethic. Gardening done well can help instill values of responsibility, pride, and accomplishment. Ultimately, the reward of eating the fruits of one's own labor can hardly be overestimated.