



VILLAGE OF
PINCKNEY
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

COMMUNITY GARDEN POLICY & PROCEDURES

In 2022 the Village of Pinckney Downtown Development Authority established a community garden on a vacant parcel owned by the Authority within downtown known as 135 W. Main Street. The program provides an opportunity for residents to grow fresh produce or plants for individuals, provides a sense of community and uses an otherwise vacant parcel within the DDA district thereby improving the aesthetics and encouraging participation in activity in the area.

The Authority will provide 4'x8' raised beds and wheelchair accessible beds. Assignment of the beds will be done on a first-come, first-served basis. Garden beds are open to both residents and non-residents and limited to one per family. If beds remain unassigned by May 1st, a second bed may be assigned as they are requested.

Water will be made available to all gardeners via the hydrant and billed to the Authority. A shed will be maintained on site for limited storage of tools, hoses, etc. The Authority will maintain the lot with regular mowing, etc. while gardeners are encouraged to help maintain walkways, etc. and keep the area aesthetically pleasing.

Beds must be maintained on a consistent basis throughout the season and maintain a neat appearance, including weeding, maintenance, regular harvesting and fall clean-up. Gardeners who have untended plots will be notified, and if not remedied, may lose gardening privileges. Gardeners must provide the annual rental agreement, pay the annual fee, and hold harmless the Village of Pinckney and their employees from all damages and claims. Gardeners must abide by all established rules and guidelines established and approved by the Authority.

Crops must be for home use, not commercial purposes, and must be legal. No cannabis may be planted. No trees, shrubs or invasive or fast spreading plants may be planted.

Informal gatherings, work days, sharing of ideas, plants, etc. are encouraged and can be done so without specific authorization.

The DDA Board may appoint a Garden Coordinator to assign beds, address questions and concerns on a day-to-day basis, coordinate work days, make requests for maintenance, funding or assistance from village departments and ensure adherence to the guidelines established. Requests for additional supplies, amenities and/or maintenance needs should be directed to the Zoning Administrator for investigation and presentation to the Authority, if needed. Any questions, disputes or problems beyond the scope of the Garden Coordinator should be directed to the Zoning Administrator for resolution.

On an annual basis, the Authority will:

- Review/approve Community Garden Guidelines
- Review/approve Community Garden application and fee
- Review/approve Expenditures for new/replacement beds
- Appoint a Community Garden Coordinator (if required)

Adopted by the Downtown Development Authority May 1, 2023

Christine Oliver, Chairperson