



Waterford
Parks & Recreation
HESS-HATHAWAY

2026

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Waterford Community Garden Policies & Information

- **REGISTRATION AND PRICING:**

Returning gardeners have from Monday, January 12th through Friday, March 13, 2026, to secure plot(s) from 2025. To do so, full payment for each plot (non-transferrable) must be received at the Leggett Campus (3621 Pontiac Lake Rd) by 4pm on March 13, 2026.

First-Come, First-Serve Registration runs Monday, March 16-Friday, May 8th, 2026. Remaining plots at this time are available to any Waterford or White Lake Township resident on a first-come, first-serve basis. Full payment for plot(s) and membership fee listed below is required in order to reserve plot space.

Membership Fee for New Gardeners

A \$20 lifetime membership fee is assessed for new gardeners. This membership is continuous based upon a yearly review. Membership may be rescinded if the gardener is not in good standing*.

**Good Standing: To remain in good standing, a gardener is expected to accept responsibility for the upkeep of their plot(s), maintain respect for all other gardeners, and follow the Waterford Community Garden Policies.*

Pricing Per 10' x 10' Plot:

\$35 Waterford Resident or \$50 White Lake Resident

- **RESIDENCY:** All new gardeners must be residents of Waterford or White Lake Townships

- **ORGANIC:** All plots must maintain their organic status.

- **COMPOST:** Any individual compost area may be forbidden if it becomes unsightly or a nuisance attraction.

- **SOIL AMENDMENTS:**

Soil amendments are encouraged. Ask Waterford Parks and Recreation for written guidelines.

- **WATERING:**

Unattended sprinklers are not permitted; watering is done by hand. Hoses must be rolled up and placed next to water source, otherwise park maintenance that benefit the garden may be delayed indefinitely. Water is available to plots mid-spring through fall depending on frost conditions.

PARK HOURS

SPRING/SUMMER: APRIL 15–LABOR DAY, 10am-8pm, 7 days/week

FALL: DAY AFTER LABOR DAY–OCTOBER 15, 10am-dusk or 8pm, whichever comes 1st

WINTER: OCTOBER 16–APRIL 14, 10am-4pm

Closed Wednesdays & Thursdays

CLOSED THE FOLLOWING 2026 HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day

MISSION

Waterford Parks & Recreation Citizens Farm Project seeks to educate our residents, including the children, and encourage healthy, local organic growing with little or none of the carbon emissions commercial farming can produce.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Tuesday, April 21st, 2026, 6:30pm

Hess-Hathaway Park—Community Building, 825 S. Williams Lake Rd.

NOTE: Please review this document and our Policies and Planting Standards prior to the meeting. If you would like to suggest any changes, item will need to be submitted to

Jessie Cobb, Farm and Nature Center Coordinator, jcobb@waterfordmi.gov by April 1st to be added to the Annual Meeting agenda.

Waterford Parks and Recreation Community Garden

- **BOUNDARY LINES:**

Moving the boundary lines or planting/displaying or securing anything outside the surveyed area is not allowed. This is to allow for adequate space between each plot to mow or weed whip which maintains the accessibility of the area for all and restricts growth of nuisance plants. Exceptions may be allowed if discussed/approved.

- **REQUIREMENT:**

Gardeners must keep their garden weeded and harvested properly. Plots must be planted by June 1st. In addition, clean-up is expected at the end of the season. Failure to do so may result in termination of membership and the plot being reassigned. It is this committee's task to work towards the betterment of the garden project for the overall benefit of members.



- **GARDEN COMMITTEE AND GARDEN SUPERVISOR:**

Committee consists of volunteer gardeners and Parks and Recreation representative. Garden supervisor(s) are nominated by the committee at the annual meeting and approved by Parks and Recreation. Garden supervisor(s) are responsible for interpreting and enforcing policies. If follow-through is needed, the garden supervisor(s) will investigate and proceed as necessary. If the situation warrants, Waterford Parks and Recreation will be advised and then the police as appropriate.

- **POLICIES AND INFORMATION:**

Waterford Parks and Recreation Policies and Planting Standards document is available and is reviewed by Waterford Parks and Recreation and the Garden Committee members at the annual April meeting and updated as deemed necessary.

- **PARKING:**

After park hours, vehicles may be left outside the gate and parked to the side of the roadway (please park parallel to the Williams Lake Road). A pedestrian gate is available to the gardeners during such times.

- **RESTROOMS:**

Restrooms in the Community Building will be under construction in 2026 through June. Porta-johns will be onsite during the construction.

- **RESPONSIBILITY:**

Each gardener assumes all responsibility for any accident or personal injury to themselves or guests. Each gardener is responsible for their actions, their family members and their guests. All plants, tools, and materials needed for each garden is the sole responsibility of the gardener assigned to the plot, and all labor necessitated is the gardener's responsibility.

- **PETS:**

Pets of any kind are not allowed with the exception of service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. *A service animal means any dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.*

Each gardener will have a specified garden plot(s). It is forbidden and membership will be revoked if a gardener(s) or their guests ENTER OR HARVEST (or in any way disturb another gardeners' plot without their expressed permission). Waterford Police Department will be notified about a concern of this nature, and additional actions will be taken. We are a community group and, as such, we look out for each other and will question unfamiliar faces. Do alert a Garden Supervisor if you will be away and someone else will be tending to your garden. Please direct anyone that will be in your garden in your absence to introduce themselves to the other gardeners. This will help promote a cohesive community of gardeners.