

## **Cornerstone Youth Center Community Garden Information Sheet**

### ***Community Garden Gossip***

Cornerstone Youth Center has a community garden that is now open to the public. While we use it as a place to educate our youth and grow food for our programming, there are now beds available for others to use as their own personal gardens, and volunteer opportunities to help with the CYC garden beds if putting and helping is more in line with your gardening needs.

There are currently 29 Beds. All raised cedar plank beds. Half were used last year; the other half are new beds for this year.

Garden Community Meetings will be held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7pm during gardening season. (March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17)

Scheduled open gardening days will be scheduled once the season has begun.

- Cleaning and bed prepping: Saturday March 24 10am-?
- Closing and cleaning: Saturday October 20 10 am -?
- Final Harvest Blessing dinner: Thursday Nov. 13 2018  
(CYC Thanksgiving dinner)

### ***Preliminary Guidelines for Garden Area:***

Gardening season will be based on Zone 5/6 gardening. (March 20 - October 20)

Beds are free on first come first serve basis.

All people who claim a plot will need to sign a community gardening guideline agreement.

### ***Sign up will begin on March 1, 2018 ( Sign up at Fish Fry ☺)***

Gardens are open Dawn to Dusk during garden season.

Some tools are available for general use. No motorized tillers allowed in beds.

Disposal areas and compost areas will be available for use.

Water barrel system is open to public use. Water from hoses are available to plot managers and volunteers only.

Children are welcome as long as they are supervised and follow garden rules. Dogs are not allowed in the garden area proper.

*Warning: Some construction will happen after July 18 in field and paths. Should not disrupt availability to garden area much.*

***Plots: See map for availability***

CYC will supply initial garden soil in each bed with a bottom layer of mulch that has wintered over.

- All plants must be annuals or perennials you are willing to dig up at the end of the season.
- No herbicides or chemicals are allowed in any beds.
- No corn may be planted in any beds.

***Volunteer Opportunities with CYC beds***

Planting Day: Every Sat. in April, May and Beginning of June.

Community Garden committee: To oversee the garden season, guidelines and help with management of needs by community and CYC.

Garden Helper: Come and dig, weed, clean, and water the CYC beds. Benefits of a gardening without having to do it all yourself. Help youth learn to plant, weed, care for and harvest a garden on your availability. Produce will be shared with all volunteers.

Garden Security: Drive by, check in, and keep things orderly throughout the evenings and weekends when CYC staff is not available or on site.

Harvester: Help prepare the harvest from CYC beds for freezing, canning, and drying. Teach youth to store food properly, and utilize the entire process for sustainability and affordability.

Contact Sarah Adams to sign up at 260-623-3972 or at [sadams@cornerstoneyc.org](mailto:sadams@cornerstoneyc.org)