



Housing & Residential Services  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
<https://fshgardens.weebly.com/>  
[ucsbfshgarden@gmail.com](mailto:ucsbfshgarden@gmail.com)

Housing, Dining & Auxiliary Enterprises  
Residential and Community Living

## Family Student Housing Community Gardening Contract Rules & Regulations

Welcome to the Family Student Housing Community Gardens here at UCSB Residential and Community Living. We are lucky to live in a horticultural climate with ample sunshine, moderate temperatures, and an ability to grow a large variety of crops. Gardening is a wonderful hobby and pastime that can be stress relieving, educational, nourishing, and fun. Please keep in mind that the garden is a community resource and those who enjoy it are expected to exhibit neighborly behavior and follow the rules below.

### General Garden Policies

- a. The following items are prohibited within the garden area since they are considered destructive to the environment and may pose a safety and health hazard:
  - Animals of any kind (except for emotional support or service animals abiding by university policy)
  - Carpet remnants
  - Chain link
  - Chemical herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, synthetic/chemical fertilizers, and/or poisons
  - Damaged or loose bird netting
  - Damaged wiring
  - Electric or gasoline powered tools
  - Furniture (non-upholstered sitting chairs allowed)
  - Glass of any kind
  - Illegal plants by University policy as well as California State, county, or city municipality law are not allowed to be grown
  - Lethal animal traps
  - Open flames or any types of fires for recreational or disposal purposes
  - Particleboard and/or plywood
  - Planting of trees
  - Plastic sheeting and/or fencing
  - Plastic Containers (use for seedlings is permitted but long term storage is not)
  - Recycled building materials
  - Structures, shelters, storage sheds (please use community storage shed to protect tools and supplies)



- b. Planting grass is not permitted. It is the responsibility of each gardener to keep weeds surrounding and within their plot under control. This would include any plants from the established pathway over to your plot. Weeds going to seed pose a problem for all gardeners. Please take the time to make sure you keep weeds under control. Please place removed weeds or other plant waste trimmings in the designated green waste disposal areas provided, not in trash cans. Unwanted crops may be disposed of in the compost bins managed by the Dept. of Public Worms according to their rules (see signage on the compost bins). Should your garden plot succumb to weed overgrowth we will inquire as to whether you are still using the garden plot.
- c. Trenching is not allowed, such as digging a 1 – 2 foot deep ditch around your garden area either for the purpose of watering or weed control. However, mounding soil for planting purposes is a suggested substitute and must be limited to 3" – 12".
- d. Burying hard wire cloth underground is not permitted.
- e. To protect seedlings and young plants, we recommend the use of containers (i.e. milk containers) to provide a microclimate needed. Please do not use the following: plastic coated milk cartons, glass jugs, paper bags or tin cans. Please do not have jugs filled with water present in the garden plot to avoid mosquito breeding.
- f. All trash and non-garden items must be removed on a daily basis. Accumulation of litter creates a safety hazard to children, threatens contamination of wetlands, and poses a fire and pest hazard. Items, which would be considered litter, would be plastic containers, seed containers (jumbo packs), plastic pots and bags, paper, and cans.
- g. Please respect other gardeners' hard work and only harvest from your own plot. You may harvest fruits from the various trees throughout the gardens in common areas, but please leave some for others to enjoy.
- h. The community gardens are here for the shared experience of all gardeners/residents. Respect for both personal and communal property must be observed at all times. Improper use of communal property or use of another's personal property without permission can result in plot confiscation.

## Plots

- a. Gardening is very popular and there are not enough plots available to satisfy demand. Each apartment is permitted to use one plot. It is not permitted to give, lend, sublet, rent, or bequeath your plot to anyone. You may not usurp plots that appear unattended and should report non-use to the Garden Coordinator. It is up to the Garden Coordinator and Residential & Community Living Staff to subdivide or combine plots as necessary to make plots more equitable. Plots are assigned on a first-come, first serve basis, and by waiting list to residents in Family Student Housing in good standing.
- b. If you transfer from one family student housing complex to another, you must forfeit the plot and get on a waitlist for a plot at the complex you are moving to.



## Water

- a. You must be present while watering your garden. **Drip irrigation is prohibited.**
- b. Due to the Stage III drought that California is in as of June 2015, watering is only permitted from Mondays 4:00 PM to Tuesdays 10:00 AM and Thursdays 4:00 PM to Fridays 10:00 AM per Goleta Water District guidelines. Please do not allow children to play around or hang onto water faucets and pipes – they can very easily break, crack or start leaking.
- c. Please do not leave faucets dripping or running – we all need to conserve water. Notify the Main Office (West Campus at Sierra Madre Villages at 805-893-3570 or Storke 805-893-2617) if you see any water leaks. Also, please complete a TMA Work Order Request at <http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/getitfixed>
- d. Flood irrigation is not an appropriate or allowable practice for the community gardens.
- e. Creation of artificial wetlands, pools, or ponds is not allowed. It is both a waste of water and can become a breeding ground for insects and attract pests to the garden that may become a nuisance.
- f. Storage of water in open containers is unnecessary and a health hazard, thus not permitted. We reserve the right to remove water storage containers of any kind and dispose appropriately. Mosquitoes and other insects breed in standing water.

## Construction

- a. Fencing and garden bed enclosures are permitted for the purpose of enclosing your garden plot. It cannot be lower than 24" (trip hazard) and may not be above 60" high (blocks view).
- b. All construction must be approved by the Garden Coordinator prior to construction beginning. Failure to comply with this may result in the removal of anything erected prematurely.
- c. Fences must be built adjacent to the pathways, with no space left between the path and the fence. This "void" space encourages weed growth and is wasted land that could be used. We encourage the relocation of existing fences where possible, but this is not required where relocation is not practical.
- d. Pathways must be wide enough to accommodate wheelbarrow clearance (~36") along plot entrance paths.
- e. Fencing installed is not to be removed when the resident discontinues gardening. This fencing is a permanent fixture once installed and will be used by future gardeners. Please be aware of this when installing new fencing and when relinquishing your plot.
- f. All garden plots must be marked before gardening can commence.
- g. **Gardeners will need to connect with their Garden Coordinator to get permission to do any structured building or add-ons within their area. Any building that occurs will be in violation of policy and asked to be taken down.**



## Tools

- a. There are many tools available to use in the gardens. Please clean them and return them to the storage shed after use. Feel free to contribute tools that you have to the community as they are always appreciated.
- b. Family Student Housing is not responsible for any lost or damaged personal tools that are left unattended in the plots (even assigned plots). We encourage residents to carry their tools back and forth between their home and the garden or to share them in the community shed.

## Organic Pest Control & Fertilizer

- a. For pest control, please eliminate areas where weeds, litter, and small pests can hide as well as maintain good gardening practices on a regular basis. Practice companion gardening to deter plants and animals from enjoying your food before you do. Visit our website for more tips: <https://fshgardens.weebly.com>
- b. Lethal traps are not allowed.
- c. We encourage the use of organic fertilizers compost, aged manure, blood meal, bone meal, kelp meal, etc. The Dept. of Public Worms offers a "worm tea" program, if you are interested in this program please contact them at [ucsbdpw@gmail.com](mailto:ucsbdpw@gmail.com) or [805-893-7765](tel:805-893-7765). (Worm tea is a liquid soil amendment made from steeping worm castings for 48 hours).

## Communication

- a. It is your responsibility to provide the Garden Coordinator with up-to-date contact information and stay in communication with respect to notices, events, and inquiries. Failure to respond to email requests about plot practices and use may result in plot confiscation (at the discretion of the Garden Coordinators).
  - a. **Two consecutive outreach attempts without a response may result in confiscation, or removal from individual to communal plot.**
- b. If you cannot tend your plot for a period of 1-month or more, you need to inform the Garden Coordinator.

## Community Engagement

- a. You must attend at least two(2) FSH Community Garden Volunteer Day or Event per academic year. The Garden Coordinator and Residential and Community Living are responsible for planning these days which will occur once per quarter, pending weather. Attendance will be tracked via sign-in sheet. If you are not able to attend a Community Garden Volunteer Day, it is your responsibility to communicate this. Failure to attend could result in plot confiscation.



## Non-Compliance

- a. Violation of these rules or **non-use** of a plot will result in an email notification to the assigned gardener and a notice placed in the Gardener's plot. The gardener will have one week to resolve the policy violation once notified.
  - a. A second violation will result in a notice to meet with the Garden Coordinator and Residential and Community Living Staff.
  - b. A third violation may result in plot confiscation by Residential and Community Living and/or removal of policy violation by staff.
  - c. Non-use includes: no/minimal engagement with the plot and no response to Garden Coordinator's email outreach to the contract holder.
- b. Residential and Community Living reserves the right to terminate Community Gardens and their adjoining contracts at any time, for such as plot review every quarter.
- c. The intent of the gardens is to be used as a planting and growing space. If after one quarter it is observed that your plot hasn't been used to plant or grow, it may result in the confiscation of your plot.
- d. If you lost your plot or you're on the waitlist, you still have access to come and enjoy the scenery, community sitting areas and trails through the garden.

**For All FSH Garden Inquiries Please Use The Following Email:**  
**[ucsbfsghgarden@gmail.com](mailto:ucsbfsghgarden@gmail.com)**



## Family Student Housing Community Gardening Contract

By signing below I agree that I have read, understood, and acknowledged my responsibilities as a Family Student Housing community gardener/resident. Failure to follow the above rules may result in loss of gardening privileges and confiscation of assigned garden plot.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Office Use Only

Name	
Apartment Unit	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Name(s) of family members using garden	
Plot Number	
Expiration/ Renewal Date	
Notes	