



## Membership Application

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can we text you? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
5. E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Occupation (optional)
7. Oldsmar Resident \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No    Full-Time Florida Resident \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
8. Do you have gardening experience (conventional or organic)?: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
9. City of Oldsmar Recreation card expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

### OOCG Committees of interest (Please check atleast 1)

- |                                                       |                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications: Website      | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications: Facebook           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Coordinator        | <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds Maintenance                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guidelines/Rules/Enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Composting/Biodigester/Fertilizers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising/Grants                 |

By signing below, I agree and understand that as a member of the Oldsmar Organic Community Garden, I am committed to maintaining my plot(s) and devoting 2 volunteer hours per month towards garden improvements for the preservation of the common grounds and areas outside the garden perimeter fence, or club functions.

I hereby indemnify and hold harmless the City of Oldsmar, the Oldsmar Organic Community Garden, and garden members from any and all liability, expenses for property loss or personal injury, and all fees and court costs.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership payments are accepted through Zelle or Venmo (oldsmarorganicgarden@gmail.com) or by checks payable to: Oldsmar Organic Community Garden.



OLDSMAR  
ORGANIC  
COMMUNITY  
GARDEN

**Oldsmar Organic Community Garden  
Release of All Claims**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a participant (Visitor, Volunteer, or Member) in the Oldsmar Organic Community Garden (OOCG). As a condition of being allowed to participate in the OOCG, I agree to the following:

1. I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through the participation in the OOCG and assume any expenses and liabilities I may incur in the event of an accident, illness, or other incapacity. If I have had any questions about the OOCG, its nature, risks, or hazards, I have contacted an OOCG coordinator and discussed those questions with him or her to my satisfaction.
2. In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the OOCG, I, for myself, my executors, administrators, agents, and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge the OOCG Executive Board, Committee Chairpersons, Members, Volunteers, and the City of Oldsmar from all claims of damages, demands, and any actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of my participation in this activity. I understand that this Release means that, among other things, I am giving up my right to sue for any such losses, damages, injury, or costs that I may incur.

I represent and certify that I am 18 years of age or older or, if a minor on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this Release. By signing this Release, I agree to have read it, understood it, and will be legally bound by it.

Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Photo Release Form

The Oldsmar Organic Community Garden is committed to excellence in all its initiatives, including the use of communication tools to keep our community informed.

From time to time, we document events by photographing participants, which may include children, youth, and adults at the garden.

In respect of the safety and privacy of all individuals involved, we request your consent to print, post, and publish images that may feature you or your children taken during activities at the garden.

Please note, incidental appearances (such as hands, legs, or the back of a head) may occur in photographs and will not be edited out; these are not covered under this release. Please initial here \_.

Your safety remains our top priority. Kindly complete the information below:

I \_\_\_\_\_, give consent for photographs to be taken of:

*My child (Child's name):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Myself and family members*

Names of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Rules and Guidelines for The Oldsmar Organic Community Garden

### **Overview:**

A community garden can build and strengthen the community, provide economic benefits, educate, increase social equity and promote environmental stewardship. The primary goal of these rules and regulations is to ensure an enjoyable experience for all. **By signing the OOCG plot membership document, you agree to abide by the rules and guidelines outlined below.**

### **Garden Hours: 8AM – 7PM**

Upon completion of obtaining a City of Oldsmar Recreation card, orientation, payment for bed(s), and understanding the rules, **only members will be given the combination to the gates and members toolshed.**

### **Raised Bed Rental Fees:**

1. Yearly rentals will commence on September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. \$50-\$100 per bed must be received from returning gardeners prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to retain your plot. New gardeners will be assigned beds on a first come, first serve basis.
2. If renewal fee is past due by 30 days, the use of the plot(s) will be forfeited.
3. The fee is non-refundable.
4. Oldsmar residence and those employed by a business residing in Oldsmar will have priority when new beds become available.
5. A raised bed may be transferred to a family member or friend in writing, one time, only if the original member contacts the Board of Directors in writing for confirmation and written approval acknowledging the transfer. Upon approval, the transferred member must fill out all membership paperwork and abide by the rules, and regulations.
6. Members in good standing may rent a maximum of 2 beds when available.

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**Use of own Plot:**

Gardeners may only use the plots assigned to them. Gardeners must maintain their plants within their plot and will trim any plants that extend into neighboring plots or into common areas. Gardeners may not alter the dimensions of their plot. Excessively tall plants that will unduly shade adjacent plots will be prohibited. Gardeners will maintain their plots and adjacent path in a clean and neat fashion, promptly removing any weeds, overgrowth, or other waste from their plot. Gardeners will promptly harvest edible plants, and are responsible for hauling and disposing of their own trash, weeds, boxes, trays, bags, packets, and similar items. Storing personal items outside of beds, along the fence lines, pathways, or in common areas is not permitted.

**Plantings:**

Gardeners may plant vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Florida is divided into USDA zones 8 through 10. Oldsmar, Florida is in USDA Hardiness Zones 10A (Central Florida climate zone). A planting guide is available through <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/lawn-and-garden/florida-gardening-calendar/>, or you may see the referenced copy in the shed. There are many sources for organic and non-GMO (Genetically Modified Organism) seeds. You can find them at Lowe's, Home Depot, Ace Hardware, Whole Foods, and by mail order (Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, among others). Organic starts can be purchased from Life Farms in Clearwater, Wilcox Nursery in Largo or Sweetwater Organic Community Farm in Tampa to name a few.

**Organic methods:**

Gardeners will garden organically. All soils, fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides must be OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) approved. Use of compost, organic mulch, and biodigester fertilizer is acceptable. The use of organic seeds and starts is recommended whenever possible. Use the best quality ingredients you can afford. If you are in doubt about a product, please ask a board member. Gardeners may not grow any plants above 6 feet in height. Planting structures that impede the security of the garden or impede adjacent gardener's access to sunlight by the nature of their height, material, or density are prohibited.

**Composting:**

Each and every gardener will be responsible for composting the right way! When standards are followed, the compost can be turned around within a 6-9-week period for use in the gardens. The smaller the materials placed in the compost, the faster it will decompose. Chop it up, turn it into the existing compost, and cover it! The list of materials needed are listed above the compost bin. Items like corn cobs, melon rinds, stalks from cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower need to be chopped up or they will take forever to break down. Please, no tomatoes, or tomato vines. No pea, or bean vines (leaves only). No roots, and no diseased plants or plants that have gone to seed.

**Prohibited plants and other items:**

Plants that are regulated or prohibited by federal or state laws are prohibited in the OOCG. Trees, shrubs, mint, catnip, raspberries, marijuana, and other invasive plants are prohibited in the raised garden bed.

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**Common Responsibilities and Volunteer Commitment:**

All members are responsible for the overall appearance of the Community Garden. A list of tasks can be found inside the volunteer log books, the whiteboard located inside of the tool room, and our website [oocg.org](http://oocg.org) under Rules and Regulations. As a member of the garden, there is a commitment to contribute **2 volunteer hours per month** towards club functions or garden improvements. Log books for documenting volunteer times are available inside the tool room or the greenhouse. Members are restricted from opting out of volunteering no more than two times within a 12 month period, at which time will be charged \$20 per month for non-compliance. Non-compliance will lead to forfeiture of membership without reimbursement.

**Absence:** Members may not abandon their plot(s). **Abandonment means failing to maintain a plot for 2 or more weeks.** If a member expects to be away from the garden for more than 2 weeks, but less than 2 months he or she must inform the Board of Directors ([oldsmarorganicgarden@gmail.com](mailto:oldsmarorganicgarden@gmail.com)). **Members who are away for more than 2 months without communicating to the Board of Directors will lose their plot(s).** Terminated members are not entitled to any refunds or other payments from the community garden.

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## **Water Conservation Guidelines for**

### **The Oldsmar Organic Community Garden**

The irrigation system is scheduled to operate three days per week—**Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday—from 5:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.** If individual plots require additional watering, hand watering is permitted only with the designated sprinkler cans located beside each rain barrel, and must occur **before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.**

**Soil Quality Enhancement:** Incorporating organic amendments improves soil moisture retention and nutrient levels. The use of 2–3 inches of compost from the finished compost bin or woodchips from the woodchip pile can reduce water consumption and increase soil fertility.

**Informed Plant Selection:** Florida is classified as USDA Hardiness Zone 10A. For planting guidance, refer to the calendar at:

**<https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/lawn-and-garden/florida-gardening-calendar/>**

**Weed Management:** Weeds compete with crops for water and may impact yields. To limit the spread of weed seeds—particularly those from Pigweed, Spurge Weed, and Purslane—prompt removal from garden beds is required.

The use of extended or supplemental hoses connected to either the main water source or rain barrels is prohibited.

Do not modify irrigation line holes or attempt repairs without prior authorization. Tubing should remain on the soil surface to help prevent blockages.

**Common Tools:**

Tools and sprays in the garden storage shed are shared by all members. Please return after using. All tools and lawn equipment are the property of the OOCG and are not to leave the garden premises. Trellises, stakes, and some fencing are found behind the large shed for members to use. Do not store your personal tools, sprays or trellises inside or behind the garden shed unless you are contributing them to the garden collection to be shared by all gardeners.

**Respect for the Garden and Others Property:**

Members and guests may not enter other members plots, use another members tools or supplies, or harvest another gardener's produce, without the explicit permission of the other gardener.

At the garden we encourage children to learn healthy limits to ensure an enjoyable and safe experience for all. It is the responsibility of all parents (guardians) to watch assist and supervise your child at all times while attending to your gardens. Our garden is not a playground! By modeling appropriate behavior and teaching your child respect at any age, to follow the rules of the garden, is a responsibility that promotes A child's sense of accomplishment and accountability. Parents (guardians) please be aware that non-compliance to the above stated guidelines can lead to suspension of the OOCG Garden Membership.

**Guests:**

Members may bring guests, including children, into the garden, provided that the guest(s) complies with the rules and guidelines. Members will supervise any child under the age of 16. Members will be responsible for the conduct of the children and their guest(s) making sure they do not damage or interfere with activities on members plots or engage in inappropriate conduct.

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## General Conduct

Members are expected to be civil, honest, and cooperative in dealing with other gardeners, and their guests to include:

- ❖ No Smoking
- ❖ No Alcohol or Drug use
- ❖ No Open Fires
- ❖ No Soliciting
- ❖ No Loud Music. Bring your ear buds to listen to your favorite music.
- ❖ Do not Molest, (bother) Feed or Remove any Wildlife from the garden, other than the Insects that are causing harm, and invading your produce.
- ❖ Only pets that are currently up to date on immunizations.

7. Initial \_\_\_\_\_