



Welcome to the Duarte (located at Royal Oak and Los Lomas). The garden consists of 22 garden raised bed plots that are available for exclusive personal use on an annual basis by Duarte residents and/or families enrolled in DUSD. Demonstration beds are open to the public along the fence outside the garden. The garden is a shared space and so it is important that everyone agrees to these rules for how to maintain the garden and its shared areas, as well as cultivate positive relationships between neighbors. These garden rules will be reviewed every 12 months to ensure that they reflect the specific needs of the garden. Plots are assigned every 12 months and have an annual non-refundable fee of \$60; renewal is not automatic. Scholarships are available for those who qualify. If you would like to be placed on a waitlist for a plot, please contact the Garden Director at [info@duartecommunitygarden.org](mailto:info@duartecommunitygarden.org).

### **Garden Rules**

1. Plotholders may access the garden from sunrise to sundown daily, year-round and an hour after sundown in the winter. Gardeners are responsible for locking the gate behind them. Combinations are strictly for plotholder use and must not be shared with others.
2. Plotholders must plant their plot within 15 days of the plot being assigned. They must garden year-round.
3. Each plotholder must keep their plot, paths, and surrounding areas, including the city sidewalks around their plot clean and free of trash, weeds, and debris. They must keep the plot free of weeds, pests, and diseases. Dispose of weeds properly based on instructions in the guidebook. If gardeners are unable to tend the plot due to illness or traveling, they must arrange for someone else to tend the plot and notify the Garden Director/Coordinator.
4. Gardeners are responsible for taking any trash or recyclables that belong to them to the trash bins.
5. Plot boundaries are clearly defined and plants must remain within the boundaries of each plot. You may not plant trees in plots or any plants higher than 4 feet. No structures other than trellises under 4 feet may be constructed in the plots; trellises must be ordinary gardening trellises made from untreated wood or normal gardening cage structures. Depending on the type of structure, gardeners may be asked to remove or alter trellises if not up to garden standards.

6. Do not apply any pesticides, insecticides or herbicides in the garden without approval from the Garden Director/Coordinator. When approved, organic methods are the only acceptable measures.
7. You may not cultivate any plants that are illegal or cannabis of any kind. Smoking of any kind is not allowed in the garden. Alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and illegal drugs are prohibited in the garden. Anyone found to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will forfeit their gardening rights. Possession of dangerous chemicals, harmful substances, and firearms is prohibited at all times.
8. Tools must be cleaned and returned to their proper location in the garden shed after use. Plotholders are responsible for locking the garden shed. If a tool is missing, damaged or broken, inform the Garden Director immediately. You may be held responsible for damaged or broken items or equipment and they may not be replaced if missing or broken.
9. Please conserve water and use a trigger-operated nozzle on the hose as required by California law. Coil all hoses and put them back in garden shed after use. You may tend the irrigation lines in your box if you participate in the irrigation workshop. Notify the Garden Director of any leaks.
10. Plotholders may not take food, plants, or materials from other gardeners' plots. Do not water, weed, or cultivate other gardeners' plots without the express permission from that plot's main gardener.
11. Gardeners may not use abusive or profane language or discriminate against others for any reason, including but not limited to: age, race, religion, national origin, gender, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation or ability.
12. Plotholders' guests and visitors may enter the fenced garden only if accompanied by the main gardener and children are on the waiver. Guests and visitors must follow all rules, terms, and conditions stated here and in the guidebook. All children under 18 years must be supervised by a responsible adult in the public garden space.
13. Pets are not allowed in the public garden or behind fences. Plotholders' animals are allowed to be tied to the fence next to the garden if well-mannered and leashed. Gated entrances and walkways may not be obstructed by pets.
14. Loud music is not permitted. Headphones must be used if playing music in the garden.
15. Plotholders are required to attend 1-2 Duarte Community Garden workdays, and 1-2 educational gardening classes a year with the program.
16. Report any accidents, theft, or vandalism promptly to the Garden Director/Coordinator.
17. In case of fire or other emergency, please call 911.
18. If found to be in violation of these rules and/or what is stated in the guidebook, you will receive a warning and additional steps may be taken, ending in dismissal from the community garden. The violation protocol is outlined in the guidebook.