



Welcome to the Community Gardens of Santa Clarita

WELCOME TO THE GARDENS	2
• <i>Introduction</i>	
• <i>Mission Statement</i>	
• <i>Garden Bylaws</i>	
• <i>Garden Rules and Regulations</i>	
GETTING STARTED	3
• <i>Organic Gardening Introduction</i>	
• <i>Soil Preparation</i>	
• <i>Water-Wise Micro-Irrigation Systems</i>	
• <i>Monthly Checklists</i>	
GETTING INVOLVED	4
• <i>Garden Council</i>	
• <i>Committees</i>	
• <i>Workdays</i>	
• <i>Special Events & Meetings</i>	
STAYING CONNECTED	6
• <i>Mailing List</i>	
• <i>Website</i>	
• <i>Google Calendar</i>	
• <i>Email</i>	
• <i>Social Media</i>	

WELCOME TO THE GARDENS

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for joining the Community Gardens of Santa Clarita. We are excited for you to begin your organic gardening journey with us. Our garden is more than just a place to grow produce, it is a place to connect with those in your community who love to garden.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Community Gardens of Santa Clarita is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to create a community facility where individuals can come together to promote the benefits of locally grown, organic food that is environmentally friendly, sustainable, and cost effective and which delivers economic, health and educational benefits.

CGSC GARDEN BYLAWS

The CGSC Bylaws describe the purpose and structure of the organization, providing vital details for understanding how the Gardens operate and how decisions are made. Members agree to abide by the Bylaws upon joining. Bylaws are reviewed annually, and any revisions are voted upon at the December meeting. The current Bylaws are posted on the CGSC website.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Additionally, the Gardens have established Rules and Regulations to ensure all Members understand the requirements for maintaining a plot. The Rules and Regulations are reviewed annually and any changes are voted on at the December quarterly meeting. The current document may be found on the CGSC website.

GETTING STARTED

We want our Members to be successful in their gardening activities. Our website has the following documents and pages which provide gardening suggestions and directions:

Organic Gardening 101: this document provides guidelines on preparing and amending your soil, describing the growing seasons in Santa Clarita, as well as tools and resources you may need to work your plot.

Soil Preparation: this document contains soil mixtures you may use for improving 100 square feet of soil and 15 cubic feet of soil.

Water-Wise Micro-Irrigation System: in here are guidelines for conserving water and being water-wise. Micro-irrigation systems and designs are described.

Monthly Checklists: A month-by-month guide for activities to perform in your plot, including what to plant, gardening suggestions, garden maintenance and water guidelines.

GETTING INVOLVED

There are many ways to complete your required twelve workhours at the Community Gardens of Santa Clarita. All workhours are to be approved by the Garden Council and hours are kept and recorded by the Vice-President. You can join a committee, be a committee chair, come to workdays, or even run for Garden Council. Below you can look over the different ways to get involved at the gardens.

GARDEN COUNCIL

The Community Gardens of Santa Clarita Garden Council consists of five volunteered individuals who have been elected at our Annual Meeting in December. Garden Council members work on average 30 plus hours throughout the year. The positions consist of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Plot Manager. For more information on the Garden Council responsibilities please read the Bylaws under Article V, Section 5.02.

COMMITTEES

We encourage gardeners to participate on a committee. It is a great education tool, an opportunity to meet other gardeners as well as a way to earn volunteer hours for the year. Most committee chairs work 15 plus hours per year and committee members work about 12 plus hours a year.

The committees at the Gardens are:

- Chickens Committee
- Compost Committee
- Education Committee
- Greenhouse Committee
- Outreach Committee
- Security & Maintenance Committee
- Special Events Committee
- Website Committee
- Worm Composting Committee

To join a committee, email the Community Gardens at communitygardensofsc@gmail.com with the following information:

Name:

Plot #

List of Interested Committees:

WORKDAYS

Another great way to get in your required volunteer hours is to participate in our monthly workdays. Workdays run from January to November and can be held on Saturday, Sunday or weekday evening. The workday schedule is posted in the garden shed as well as the CGSC Google calendar. Any changes to the workdays will be emailed to garden members. The Vice-President runs the workdays and members will check in with them as well as sign in to record hours. On workdays the garden members clean the general garden grounds including picking up trash, leaves, mulching, turning compost, cleaning the shed, weeding, pruning existing foliage and other maintenance as needed.

SPECIAL EVENTS & MEETINGS

The Community Gardens participates in city special events on a yearly basis, such as Arbor Day. We also host our own Harvest Festival at the end of October every year.

The Community Gardens consists of 8 monthly council meetings, 3 quarterly meetings (held in March, June, and October), and 1 annual meeting (held in December).

Garden Members are welcome to attend all meetings where refreshments and potlucks may be provided. Garden Members can earn 1 work hour for participating in quarterly meetings. Meetings are a great way to get involved in the gardens, meet the council and committee chairs, and keep up to date on garden events.

STAYING CONNECTED

MAILING LIST

When you become a member of CGSC, your contact email address is automatically added to our mailing list. Keep an eye out for newsletters, announcements, reports and gardening insights, direct to your inbox.

WEBSITE

Our website is a great resource for members and gardening enthusiasts. You will find current Bylaws, Rules and Regulations as well as other useful Member documents available online. Explore our resource pages to help you get started on your gardening journey. Our website address is:

<https://www.communitygardensofsantaclarita.org>

GOOGLE CALENDAR

CGSC maintains a Google Calendar that is updated with Garden events. Events can be imported from this calendar into your own calendar. The Calendar link can be located on our website on the News page, or you can access the calendar directly via this link:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=communitygardensofsc@gmail.com>

EMAIL

You can always reach out to CGSC at our email address at communitygardensofsc@gmail.com if you should have any questions, comments or observations to share.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You will find beautiful photos of the Gardens through the seasons on our Facebook and Instagram page. Our YouTube page contains playlists of our favorite instructive videos.

Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/communitygardensofsantaclarita/
Instagram	@cgofsantaclarita
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/@CommunityGardensofSantaClarita

Thank you again for joining the Community Gardens of Santa Clarita!