

Alpine Park Homeowners' Association

Policy Title: Community Garden Use
Effective Date: February 25, 2026
Approved By: Alpine Park HOA Board of Directors

1. Purpose

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of HOA-managed community garden plots by residents of Alpine Park. This policy supports fair access, safe use, and responsible stewardship of the HOA community gardens. Day-to-day guidelines (e.g., hours, composting instructions, watering etiquette) are provided in an accompanying *Alpine Park Community Garden Rules* document, which may be updated periodically. In case of conflict, this policy prevails.

2. Scope

This policy applies to HOA-owned and managed community gardens and to residents who voluntarily reserve and use them. It does not apply to City of Calgary community gardens or other non-HOA spaces.

3. Eligibility & Assignment

- Plots are available to residents of Alpine Park only – this includes:
 - Homeowners of fee simple properties in Alpine Park in good standing;
 - Homeowners of condominium units in Alpine Park in good standing; and
 - Tenants renting a property or unit in Alpine Park, provided the owner of the property is an Alpine Park HOA Member in good standing.
- Plots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis each season.
- One plot per address is the standard allocation. Additional plots may be assigned only if all plots are not claimed by the sign-up deadline (maximum three plots per address).
- There is no automatic renewal or guarantee of the same plot for future years.

4. Permitted Use:

- Plots are intended for personal gardening purposes (e.g., vegetables, herbs, flowers). Large-scale or commercial growing is not permitted.

5. Standards of Care & Planting

- Plots must be kept tidy and free of weeds throughout the season.
- Invasive plants are prohibited. Examples include creeping bellflower, bindweed, horsetail, and quackgrass.
- Temporary supports (e.g., stakes, cages) are permitted; however, permanent structures are not allowed.
- Shared areas (paths and common spaces) must remain clear at all times.
- Water use must be responsible and in accordance with posted guidance.

6. End of Season Cleanup

All materials including but not limited to plants, organic matter, vegetation, stakes, netting, and debris must be removed by the cleanup deadline posted by the HOA and/or property manager (typically early October).

Failure to clean up plot(s) will result in loss of eligibility for at least one following season (see Section 8).

7. Prohibited Items/Use

- Chemical herbicides or pesticides.
- Cannabis or other illicit substances.
- Storage of non-gardening items in plots.
- Disposal of meat, dairy products, or animal waste in the designated compost bin(s).
- Open flames or heaters.

8. Enforcement

- Failure to comply with this policy may result in loss of eligibility to reserve a garden plot in future seasons (minimum one season).
- Additional penalties, including cleanup charges or fines, may be levied at the discretion of the HOA Board, in accordance with the HOA Bylaws.
- For tenant plots, enforcement applies to the tenant's eligibility; the Board may also suspend eligibility for the associated property (owner or future tenants) for the standard penalty period in the event of material or repeated violations.
- The HOA's designated property manager is authorized to interpret and enforce this policy on behalf of the Board. Gardeners will be notified of any violations and given an opportunity to address issues before penalties are applied.

9. Disclaimer

The HOA is not responsible for theft, damage, or injury in the garden area.

10. Related Documents

Alpine Park Community Garden Rules: An operational guide issued by the HOA outlining day-to-day procedures (e.g., garden hours, watering, composting practices). The Rules may be updated periodically. In case of conflict, this policy prevails.