

# 5<sup>th</sup> AVENUE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Shoreline Free Methodist Church  
510 NE 175<sup>th</sup> St.  
Shoreline, WA 98155

## 2025 Garden Plot Application

Garden plots are available for one year at a time, starting April 15, 2025. Our goal is to provide gardens for our neighbors in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park that have limited garden space.

The plot fee for 2025 is \$35 for a 4x8 plot.

Name		Plot #	(if returning)
Address		City	Zip
Email	Primary Phone		
Emergency Contact Name and Phone			
<p>Please describe your organic gardening experience:   <input type="checkbox"/> New       <input type="checkbox"/> Some       <input type="checkbox"/> Experienced</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would like to request a financial scholarship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If additional plots are available after April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 I would like a second plot (\$35)</p> <p><i>Existing second plot number (if applicable):</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I request an ADA accessible bed</p>			

**As a member of the Fifth Ave Community Garden, I agree to abide by the following rules, terms, and conditions:**

1. The annual fee for a plot in 2025 is \$35 per plot (April 15, 2025 – April 14, 2026), and is due on or before April 30th. Fees are only used for necessary community garden expenses and supplies. Scholarships are available.
2. This garden follows organic gardening practices. I will not apply any pesticides or chemical sprays in the garden that are not approved for organic use. (OMRI listed or similar.) Seeds and starts are not required to be certified organic. If unsure, I will ask the Garden Team before applying a product.
3. Once I have been assigned a plot, I will begin to cultivate and plant it by June 1<sup>st</sup>. I will maintain the plot year round. My plot cannot be left fallow or unused more than one time a year, and for no longer than six months. If left fallow or unused, such as in late fall and winter, I will protect my plot in a sustainable manner. For example, with a cover crop, mulch, or burlap bags.

4. The external measurements of my plot are 4x8.5 feet. I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot, and will not allow plants in my bed to grow more than six feet high. I must keep my plot free of weeds, pests and diseases.

Note: Rabbits do live in the blackberry bushes adjacent to the garden, and the limits of the garden are not fenced. Individual gardeners can decide whether and how to keep rabbits out of their plots, such as with wire fencing around the perimeter of the inside of the bed, or by covering specific plants. For safety, rebar or other pointed rods will not be allowed. Please contact the Garden Team with any questions.

5. I will keep my plot, paths, and surrounding areas clean and neat. I will completely separate my garden waste and dispose of it per the posted guidelines into recycling, compost, yard waste, and trash. Anything I bring from my home I will take back home. I will not bring household trash and leave it at the garden or on the grounds. Any garden structures in the bounds of my plot will be temporary (not adhered permanently to the wood) and will be removed by me if I do not renew my plot.

6. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Garden Team.

7. I will not plant any illegal or controlled plant, such as anything on Washington State's noxious weed list, opium poppies, or marijuana. If found they will be removed without notice by the Garden Team.

8. I will not smoke, vape, drink alcoholic beverages, or otherwise use illegal drugs or controlled substances in the garden or on the surrounding grounds. I will not come to the garden if under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

9. Children are encouraged to come and experience the garden. I will supervise any children I bring to the garden at all times when they are in the garden or on the grounds. Use of the playgrounds must be supervised at all times. Use of the playground is only permitted at times of day when preschool is not in session. Guests must follow all rules, terms, and conditions stated here.

10. We love your dog, and the church allows dogs on much of their property. For health reasons, pets are not allowed in the garden. If my pet is secured outside the garden area I will ensure they do not interfere with the enjoyment of other gardeners or visitors to the grounds. I will clean up after my pet on the grounds.

11. The Garden Team may assign each gardener general garden maintenance, up to eight hours a year. Unless specified or arranged otherwise, I must complete any assigned tasks within a month.

12. I will water my plot conscious of water usage. I will report any leaks to the Garden Team. I will turn off the water when I am not using it. I will neatly return hoses and watering cans to their designated storage when finished.

13. I will make every effort to attend any scheduled garden meetings, and will read or listen to any communications sent to me by the garden team.

14. I must be at least eighteen years old to reserve a plot.

15. I will not take food or plants from other gardeners' plots, weed, or otherwise work on other gardeners' plots, unless an arrangement has been made with them. I will not take anything from the garden that is not rightfully mine, including communal tools.

16. I will respect other gardeners and guests. I will not use abusive or hateful language. I will work to keep the garden a safe and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.

17. Garden plots are for personal use. At this time the garden does not have the space to allow beds for commercial use, such as the for-profit sale of flowers, starts, or produce.

18. Gardening hours are dawn until dusk.

19. Provided/communal tools are for everyone to use on site. When finished with them, please clean and return them to their storage spot.

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I agree to abide by the garden rules, both those given on this application and those posted in the garden. Non-compliance with the posted and above rules, terms, and conditions may result in exclusion from the garden and loss of my plot. If I receive a verbal warning and no correction is immediately made, I will receive a written warning from the garden team. If still no correction is made within one week of the warning being sent, I will lose my plot.

If I do not begin to garden my plot by June 1, 2025, I understand that my plot may be reassigned to the next person on the wait list or gardened as a shared or food bank plot.

Policies are subject to change if the need arises. All gardeners will be notified before any necessary policy changes are implemented. Please email the Garden Team with any questions or concerns at [fifthavecommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:fifthavecommunitygarden@gmail.com).

**WAIVER & HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE:** I am fully aware that the work associated with the garden involves certain risks of physical injury or death. Being fully informed as to these risks and in consideration of my being allowed to participate in the Fifth Ave Community Garden, I hereby assume all risk of injury, damage and harm to myself arising from such activities. I also hereby individually and on behalf of my heirs, executors and assignees, release and hold harmless the Fifth Avenue Community Garden and Shoreline Free Methodist Church, their officials, employees, agents, and waive any right of recovery that I might have to bring a claim or lawsuit against them for any personal injury, death or other consequential damages occurring to me arising out of my activities or those of guests I bring to the garden.

Signature of Garden Applicant	Date
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Please email this signed application to [fifthavecommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:fifthavecommunitygarden@gmail.com), or mail a printed copy to the mailing address above. (Pictures of application are acceptable.)

The \$35 plot fee payment can be sent by check to the church, or paid online via the link at the bottom of the Plots page [www.fifthavegarden.org/plots](http://www.fifthavegarden.org/plots). Click the link and find “5<sup>th</sup> Ave Community Garden Plot Fee” on the link’s dropdown menu. Payment isn’t due until April 30<sup>th</sup> when we’ll have second plots assigned.

Second plots are assigned as available after April 15<sup>th</sup>. If there is significant interest, plot and fee may be split with another gardener. For 2025, sharing is looking likely as we already have a waitlist for first plots.

There are numerous groups and activities both in our building and on our property throughout the year, including a preschool. We ask that all users be respectful of one another. From time to time, the church hosts tent encampments on the north end of the parking lot, but there are no plans to host in 2025.

In February 2026, current gardeners will be given priority to renew one plot. General availability opens to new gardeners on 3/15.

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