



Westside Unitarian
 Universalist Church
 901 Page Ave.
 Fort Worth, TX 76110

WUUC Policies and Procedures

Title	Gardens (Meditation, Celebration, and Exploration)
Number	
Purpose	To protect the safety of all individuals and user groups, and the health and wellbeing of trees, plants, and wildlife in the gardens
Scope	This policy will apply to all church volunteers, staff members, user groups, and renters.
Definitions	ADA – Americans With Disabilities Act
References	
Appendices	None
Author	Buildings, Grounds, Aesthetics Committee and Garden Team
Approval Dates	Origination: 5/09/2023 Last Revision: Last Reviewed: Next Review Date: 8/2025

Gardens: Meditation, Celebration, & Exploration (located immediately south of the building and within the fence)

1. Tool Shed

- a. Garden tools and supplies for adults, children, and youth shall be cleaned after use and stored in the shed.
- b. Chemicals must be stored on high shelves out of the reach of children.

2. Walkways

- a. Walkways shall provide no less than 32” passage width for ADA accessibility.
- b. Walkways must be free of tripping hazards such as extension cords, and debris. (Exception: garden workdays when hoses, carts, etc. are in use.)

3. Green Challenge

- a. Environmental choices shall be made to reduce our carbon footprint in the garden. (Example: reduction of the use of single-use plastic.)
- b. One or more compost bins shall be maintained in the garden for lawn waste. Under no circumstances should it/these be used for garbage such as cans, bottles, plastic, etc
- c. Effort shall be made to stay organic, especially when it comes to weed, disease, and pest control, and fertilizer choice.
- d. No citronella smoke is permitted due to its toxicity to dogs and wildlife. No citronella plants shall be added to the garden

4. Lighting

- a. No open flame larger than a tea-candle is permitted. (exception: chalice)
- b. Solar-powered string and other lights are highly encouraged to limit use of extension cords as electrical outlets are in short supply and extension cords present a tripping hazard.

5. Ashes

- a. This garden is NOT an approved depository for cremains in urns or any type of container.

6. Memorial Trees

- a. Trees planted in memory or honor of someone shall be tagged as such.
- b. Honor/memory trees may be planted after consultation with the Garden Oversight Team and the Building and Grounds Committee.

7. Plantings

- a. Additional or replacement plants may be added with consultation of the Garden Team as to type and location.
- b. Continuous effort shall be made to add plants and ornamental grasses native to North Central Texas with care to avoid those that are invasive.
- c. Addition of plants to support pollinators shall be encouraged.

8. Adopt-a-Spot

- a. Planting and maintenance of adopted spots shall be designated as to the caretaker/tender.
- b. Failure to maintain an adopted spot may result in forfeiture of the spot and adoption by another person or group.

9. Watering

- a. Watering shall be provided by an irrigation system on a schedule depending on the season.
- b. Supplemental hand watering shall be the responsibility of those who add plants, grasses, or trees.
- c. Using stored roof runoff water on any plants or trees that provide food for human consumption shall be avoided.

10. Décor

- a. Any garden décor that is temporary and/or used for a special event must be removed at the completion of the event.
- b. Any permanent additions of décor must be approved by the Garden Team and Building & Grounds Committee.

11. Supervision

- a. Parents or their designee shall supervise their children when the children are not otherwise in class.
- b. Pets may not be left unattended.

12. Educational Materials

- a. Environmental/educational materials, supplies, books, etc. for use by and for children, youth and their teachers shall be stored in the main building in the Committee Room.

Adopted May 8, 2023