

# chicago park district

## SCHREIBER PARK/RUBY GARDEN | Application for Garden Plot in 2013

Please deliver completed application directly to: **Venus Roman**  
Schreiber Park Fieldhouse  
1552 W. Schreiber Ave  
Chicago, IL 60626

**Deadline** (delivered no later than): **ALL (Current and New) Plotholders: Friday, March 22, 2013**

Plot assignments will be announced: **Tuesday, March 26, 2013**

\*\*\*Please note: There is a fee of \$40 for each garden plot.\*\*\*

The fee must be paid by **Saturday, April 6, 2013**, or plot will be reassigned.

**MANDATORY ALL GARDEN MEETING 10 AM, APRIL 6, 2013, Kovler Center, 1331 West Albion**

**Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Address**: \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime Phone**: \_\_\_\_\_ **Evening Phone**: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you a 2012 Ruby Garden Plotholder?** \_\_\_\_\_ **If so, please write plot number here:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(2012 Plotholders in Good Standing may keep their plot if they fill out and return this form with fee on time.)**

**Email**: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you willing/able to contribute to a scholarship fund for gardeners needing assistance?  
Email is our preferred method of communication. Please indicate if you would like us to communicate with you another way. \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to buy a **Ruby Garden t-shirt** for \$10? There may be limited scholarship assistance available. Do you need assistance?  
**How many?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Size/s** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Being a part of Ruby Garden is being a part of the community and of the Chicago Park District.** Each summer, the Chicago Park District sponsors summer camps for thousands of children across Chicago. Please consider contributing \$10 over the community garden fee to help sponsor a child in the Schreiber Park summer camp this year. Your donation will be used directly here in Schreiber Park to sponsor a Rogers Park child. Please check here to contribute \$10. **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Photos:** Community members occasionally take photographs of Ruby Garden in order to support fundraising or other efforts. By signing this application, you are consenting to having your photograph taken and used in conjunction with garden activities.

**Please read the second page of this application. If you agree to abide by the guidelines & rules, please proceed with the application and sign, date and send in the completed application by the deadline.**

**Contact:**

You can stop by and talk to Venus Roman at Schreiber Park, Monday through Friday,  
or email the leadership committee at [info.rubygarden@gmail.com](mailto:info.rubygarden@gmail.com).  
Information is also available at the Ruby Garden website at [www.therubygarden.com](http://www.therubygarden.com)

## GUIDELINES & RULES

1. **Boundaries for Plotholders.** Individual plotholders must reside in the vicinity of Schrieber Park. “. . .in the vicinity . . .” is defined as within the boundary of Pratt Ave. on the north, Granville Ave. on the south, Lakewood Ave on the east, and Ravenswood on the west.
2. **Plots.** Garden plots are reserved for one gardening season, from spring to fall. If you need to vacate a plot early, please contact the Ruby Garden Committee so the plot can be reassigned to someone from the waiting list. A gardener has no guarantee that any plot will be re-assigned to them the following year(s). Therefore, any plant materials planted, such as perennial herbs, are planted at the gardener’s own risk. Do not bring and store wood and other materials at the garden. Tomato cages especially need to be removed at the end of the gardening season.
3. **Plot Reassignment.** If you are for any reason no longer able to maintain your plot, you may not give it away to a friend. There is a waiting list for plots, and your plot will be reassigned to the next person on the waiting list.
4. **Neighboring plots.** Do not pick, take, weed, destroy or steal anything from another gardener’s plot.
5. **Pest Control.** Only organic means of pest control may be used. For any questions, please contact the leadership committee.
6. **Plot maintenance.** You are expected to actively garden and maintain your plot in an acceptable manner. All garden plots must be worked by May 15th. If a gardener is finished using their plot before the official end of the gardening season in the fall, the gardener must clear their plot and notify the Ruby Garden Committee within 10 days after harvesting, so that a cover crop can be planted. **Ruby Garden is an organic and GMO-free garden.** Please plant only **organic and GMO-free seeds and organically/GMO-free** grown plants in your plot.

“...an acceptable manner” means that you are actively gardening – digging, sowing, planting, weeding, pruning, watering, harvesting, etc. – once a week at the very least during the growing season. If you are ill or on short vacation, ask a friend/relative or another garden plot holder to water and tend your plot. Harvesting in a timely manner is especially important.

**Warning Notices and Plot Reassignment.** A first warning will be emailed to any gardener whose plot looks untended. The gardener has 7 days to remedy the situation. A second warning will be given via phone call. From the phone call, the gardener has 7 days to remedy the complaint. If the plot is *still* not gardened – after two warnings and 14 days – his/her plot will be cleared and it will be reassigned to the next person on the Wait List. A notice of reassignment will be mailed and attempt to phone the past gardener will be made.

7. **Pathways.** You are responsible for weeding and taking care of the paths bordering your plot. It must be smooth to walk on and kept free of debris and weeds. These paths cannot be eliminated and must be kept clear. A plot extension at the end of your plot is not permitted. Plants cannot extend onto the walkway. Be considerate of all who walk past. Prune, tie back or transplant errant plants – especially if they are thorny.
8. **Plant materials discouraged.** **Trees** are NOT permitted in individual garden plots. **Sunflowers** are also not permitted in individual garden plots. **Corn** may be planted in certain circumstances with express permission of the leadership committee.

**Woody shrubs** must not exceed 3 feet in height and their root system must not extend beyond the plot in which they are planted. Woody shrubs may only be planted with the prior approval of the Program Specialist.

If planting **tall plants**, plant where they are least likely to cast shade upon your neighbors’ plots.

9. **Standing towers and walls.** “Highrise” structures, walls, or any assemblage of materials that encloses a plot or intrudes on another’s is not permitted. Only one side of a garden plot can have vertical trellis-like, open, airy structures for supporting climbing vegetables, vines or flowers. Poles, stakes, cages and other supports that are used for plants are allowed.
10. **Water/Hoses.** Please conserve water. The water supply is only to be used by gardeners caring for their assigned areas. No washing of cars or other personal, non-garden related items. Please shut off spigot and neatly rewind the hose after use. Take special care not to damage another’s plants when pulling the hose to your plot. Water another’s plot **only** if you have been asked to.
11. **Volunteer.** You are **required** to volunteer in the garden – to donate some time to the maintenance of the Garden and the overall park. Spring and fall clean-up events will be hosted. **You must attend at least 2 of 4 scheduled work days.** If you cannot, you must arrange **an equivalent 4 hours** before or after the event to contribute. Event notices will be mailed accordingly.
12. **Activities in the Garden.** Walking through or standing in any garden plot is not permitted. Littering, urinating and defecating are absolutely prohibited. Amplified sound is not permitted except through headphones. No unlawful activities (that includes NO alcohol).
13. **Pets.** For the safety of all gardeners growing edibles, **no pets** are allowed within Ruby Garden.

**I have read and agree to abide by the above rules and guidelines. I understand that failure to observe any of them may result in garden privileges being revoked and/or garden plots being reassigned.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_