

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-81**

**INTRODUCED BY MAYOR**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE OAKWOOD  
COMMUNITY GARDEN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Village Oakwood deems it advantageous to the health and welfare of its residents to provide space for the growing of healthy sources of fresh food;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

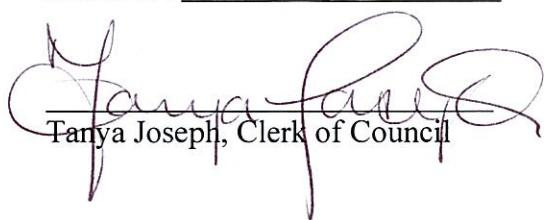
**SECTION 1.** The Oakwood Community Garden is hereby established to be located in space to be designated and administered by the Director of Public Service.

**SECTION 2.** The Community Garden shall be subject to the rules and regulations attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit 1 as amended from time to time by the Director of Public Service.

**SECTION 3.** The Community Garden shall be funded by grants, rentals and donations which rentals and donations shall be maintained by the Finance Director in a fund designated for that purpose and said funds are hereby appropriated for purposes set forth in this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that the site of the garden needs to be prepared and equipment needs to be purchased in order for planting to occur on a timely basis for the next growing season, therefore, provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: 1-13-24

  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

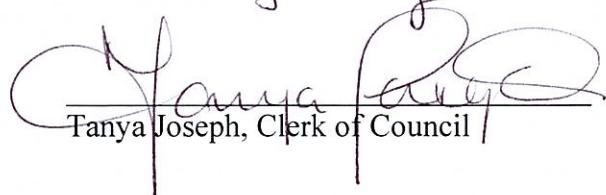
Eloise Hardin  
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

Presented to the  
Mayor 1-14-24

Approved: 1-14-24

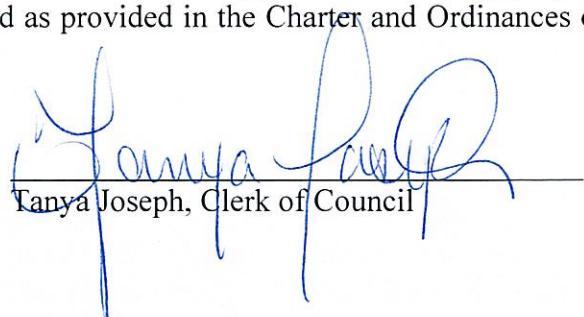
  
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2025-81 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

#### POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2025-81 was duly posted on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026, and will remain posted as provided in the Charter and Ordinances of the Village.

  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

DATED: 1-14-24



# COMMUNITY GARDEN

## REGISTRATION, WAIVER AND RELEASE

The community gardens are located just adjacent to the Oakwood Community Park parking lot by the pavilion and available to Oakwood Village Residents ONLY.

Access to the Community Gardens is via the Oakwood Community parking lot. Parking will only be permitted in the Community Park parking lot and not along the walkway to Oakhill.

Each in-ground garden plot will be 10'x4'. ADA compliant raised beds are available upon request for those in need and/or availability.

Gardeners need to bring their plant material and planting utensils. Full sun and water are on-site. The area is completely fenced to protect the plant material and each registered gardener will be provided a code to the lockbox for access. This code should not be shared with anyone who is not a registered gardener.

Gardens will be open and ready for planting around Mother's Day.

Failure to abide by the Expectations of Gardeners listed below will be grounds for the termination of the gardener's participation in the program without refund of fees or compensation for any plantings.

### • • • • • COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES AND REGULATIONS • • • • •

*A Community Garden registration form, signature of acceptance of all rules and regulations, full payment of all required fees and execution of a Release of all Claims form must be completed by a gardener prior to being assigned a garden spot.*

#### EXPECTATIONS OF GARDENERS

- Gardeners may begin planting around Mother's Day. Gardeners will be notified via email when the gardens are open - as it is based on weather.
- Garden hours are sunrise to sunset daily.
- Control weeds and overgrowth of plots and surrounding paths.
- Walking Paths are not to be blocked or damaged.
- Weeds shall not be left in the pathways. Dispose of garden waste in designated areas only.
- Do not leave hoses charged (be sure to shut off after use).
- Keep all areas neat.
- Be respectful of other gardeners' produce.
- Close and confirm the garden gate is locked upon leaving to ensure garden remains secure.
- Herbicides are not permitted. Pest control needs to be **organic**.
- Limit application of organic fertilizers to your own plot and prevent unintentional wind drift, runoff or contamination of other plots.
- Plots must be vacated no later than October 31.
- *Proof of residency (driver's license and current utility bill) required with application.*

**FEES, DATES AND ASSIGNMENT OF PLOTS**

Annual fees - \$25.00. Garden plot assignment is based on first-come-first served.

**OAKWOOD COMMUNITY GARDEN RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, residing at the Oakwood

address of \_\_\_\_\_

am a participant in the Oakwood Community Garden ("Community Garden"). As a condition of being allowed to participate in the Community Garden, I fully agree to the following:

1. I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through participation in the Community Garden, and assume any expenses and liabilities I incur in the event of an accident, illness or other incapacity. If I had any questions about the Community Garden, its nature, the risks or hazards involved, I have contacted the Service Director and discussed my questions to my satisfaction.
2. In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the Community Garden for this year, I, for myself, my executors, administrators, agents, successors and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge Oakwood and its officers, officials (elected or appointed), directors, employees, and Departments, including the Service Department, volunteers, and other gardeners who have signed a similar Release of All Claims from any and all rights, claims of damages, demands, and any causes of actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of my participation in Community Garden activities. I understand that this Release of All Claims means that, among other things, I am giving up my right to sue or to otherwise make any claims for any such losses, damages, injury or costs that I may incur.

I represent and certify that my true age is either at least 18 years old or, if I am under 18 years old on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this form with the intent to be legally responsible. I expressly agree that this Release of All Claims contains the entire agreement between the parties and the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital.

**THE UNDERSIGNED HAS CAREFULLY READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNED THIS WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS ITS CONTENTS AND MEANING**

Gardener's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE ONLY****METHOD OF PAYMENT** (please check method & complete all fields) Check

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

 Visa/Mastercard

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

 Cash

VERIFIED RESIDENCY (staff initials): \_\_\_\_\_