

Guidelines for Premium Mini-Plot Farmers - Provisional

All Farm Club members must follow the Farm Club Rules, as posted on our website, whether renting a full-size plot or a premium mini-plot. Because the renters of mini-plots share responsibility for certain tasks, they are emphasized below:

IRRIGATION: The water source for all 8 mini-plots is the bottom hose on the water post. This valve should never be turned off unless there is a leak in the distribution piping. In this case contact the Club.

Each mini-plot has a black-handled shutoff valve which should be used to turn water for that particular bed on and off. When the handle is parallel to the PVC piping, the water is ON; when perpendicular, it is OFF. The handle only turns thru 90 degrees, so if it seems "stuck" try the other direction.

It is not permitted to leave the water running at your plot if it is not timer-controlled or you are not present. Water left running unattended and without a timer will be shut off.

The connection at the end of the supplied pipe fits a standard hose fitting and also the common battery powered timers by Orbit, for example, that are found at the Home Supply stores. Do NOT use aluminum fittings when connecting to brass hose bibs on the primary water post.

Drip and other low-profile watering fixtures should be used in the mini-plots. Larger scale devices such as yard-style sprinklers, oscillating sprayers and impact heads (rain birds) would be difficult to restrict to only one mini-plot and are discouraged.

FREEZING WEATHER: When there is a freeze forecast the Water Coordinator will send out an email to alert all farmers. When the water is turned off, volunteers will drain each water post and then leave the valves on the post in the OFF condition. For the mini-plots, the volunteers will loosen whatever is connected to the pipe in each bed, drain the pipes, and turn off each water valve. Once the danger of freezing is past, the Water Coordinator will turn the well pump back on, and send out an email. It is each farmers responsibility to turn their water back on to the settings that are right for their plot.

BEDS & PATHWAYS: You are responsible for keeping your mini-plot tidy and weeded. Each mini-plot has black covering - either plastic or landscape fabric which can be invaluable for suppressing weeds when your plot is idle for prolonged periods. Note that the material must be weighed down with something heavy to keep the covering from blowing away. Bricks, posts, lumber and the like are very helpful as weights.

As a renter of a mini-plot, you also accept responsibility to keep one or two of the pathways adjacent to your bed as shown in the map below. Note that the 9B-4 and 9D-4 mini-plots include the narrow border adjacent to the grass walk as well as the pathway between the -3 and -4 mini-plots.

