Community Gardening Program
Restricted and Prohibited Plants Policy

The Community Gardening Program has created this list in response to ongoing management issues in the community gardens. The plants referenced below have aggressive growth habits, tend to take over and persist in plots, spread unwanted seeds, and have other qualities we do not want in the community gardens. Over time they present a challenge to the success of future gardeners. In the spirit of community gardens, please ensure that your plot is free from unacceptable plants; if you have questions or concerns about your or your neighbors’ plots or pathways, please contact CGP staff.

Restricted Plants:
Since 2015, new plantings of cane fruit (raspberries, blackberries, etc.), grape vines, fruit trees, and other woody perennials have been disallowed. If you would like to gain experience with the cultivation of the above species, please look to the Bloomington Community Orchard, located on Highland Ave. just south of Willie Streeter Gardens, as a resource and an opportunity.

Prohibited Plants:
Since the start of the 2015 season, fast-growing, invasive plants including, but not limited to, Artemesia vulgaris (mugwort), Canada thistle, mint species, and any plant that multiplies in such a way (by seed, rhizome, etc.) as to overtake the plot/soil as a nuisance specimen will not be allowed. The CGP staff will, at their discretion, determine if plants are invasive, prohibited by the State of Indiana, or otherwise inappropriate for a community gardening setting. If you have invasive plants in your plot, ask CGP staff for guidance on how best to remove them. Upon removal, please do not place invasive plants in the compost bins where they may proliferate and spread to other gardeners’ plots. They must be disposed of by the gardener.