

## **NEWS FROM THE GARDEN Feb. 5, 2012**

**This is another reminder that the garden year will be coming to a close on February 29<sup>th</sup> and the new garden year will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. That means you will be required to complete a new application if you want to keep your plot(s) for the 2012-2013 garden year. For your convenience, I have attached the application and guidelines. Please complete the application and send it to Judy Ludlow, 8652 Heppner Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624 or to the address on the application. The guidelines are for you to keep. There are also applications in the blue shed.**

**For those of you who have not completed your 12 hours of volunteer time, the following is important. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the garden's guidelines, you agreed to volunteer, at least, 12 hours to the garden by (1) attending garden meetings, (2) participating in garden work days, (3) serving on garden event committees, (4) caring for a Food Bank plot or (5) assisting in the garden's overall administrative operations. If you have not completed your 12 hours, the following may be applicable to you:**

**All gardeners with 6 or less volunteer hours recorded at the end of February will not be issued a plot for the new garden year. You will still be able to keep your plot if you complete 12 hours by the end of February.**

**All gardeners with 7 or more, but less than 12 hours recorded volunteer hours will be evaluated on a case by case basis. This means that if you do not attempt to complete your hours by the end of February, you are in danger of losing your plot.**

**NOTE: The volunteer hours do not apply to Plots E-1 through E-10, and/or EG-ACT plots.**

**If you need hours, the garden is full of weeds and needs lots of work. The sun is shining most days and it is a great time to pick up a shovel or hoe and get rid of those weeds. Bring out the family. Everyone's time counts toward volunteer hours. A family of four can earn 4 volunteer hours in one hour.**

There are also a few gardeners who need to clean out their plots.

If you are growing rosemary or artichokes, remember to keep the plants small and contained as they tend to. If they get too large, please remove them and start over and PLEASE - NO MINT!!!! It is very invasive.

We are also looking for new coordinators this year. We need someone to tend the herb garden, someone to coordinate the Food Bank deliveries and someone to keep the garden's scrapbook updated. If you can help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all of you who have worked so hard this year to keep our garden beautiful. We are so proud to have one of the best community gardens in the Sacramento area. Everything that is accomplished at the garden is because of our wonderful gardeners donating their time and energy throughout the year. I hope to see everyone back this next garden year but if for some reason, you decide to give up your plot, please let me know as soon as possible as we have a large waiting list. Thanks again to all of you. Happy gardening!!!!