

Culverhouse Community Garden at Culverhouse Nature Park on Palmer Ranch

A Sarasota County Community Organic Vegetable Garden

F.A.Q.s

The Culverhouse Community Garden, located in the 82-acre Culverhouse Nature Park, officially opened on June 29, 2013. Right-turn-only entry from McIntosh Road.

Who can apply for a plot in Culverhouse Community Garden?

Any resident of Sarasota County may apply for a plot. Members hail from over 20 county neighborhoods and subdivisions. Membership is currently limited to 65 members and their family and helpers.

Are there annual fees?

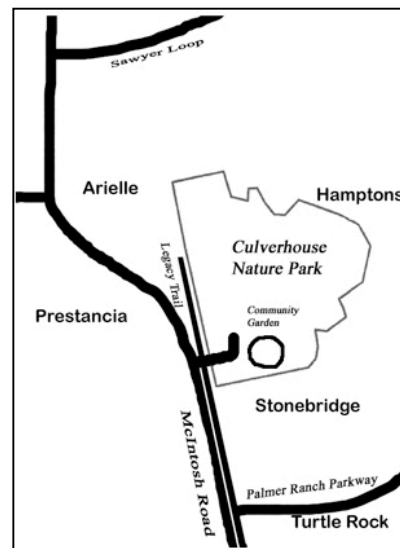
Yes. There is a non-refundable \$25 annual plot fee paid to the Sarasota County School and Community Garden Program.

How was the community garden built?

The community garden was built mostly by volunteers. The infrastructure (shed and water system) was financed with grants and donations. The Culverhouse Family donated the land and paid for the well and many components of the water system. A \$10,000 Sarasota County Neighborhood Grant, plus a \$3,000 grant from the Schober Foundation, paid for the fence. The Sheehan-Freeman Family donated the south garden shed. Garden members and Friends of Culverhouse Community garden donated \$100 Founders Bricks and raised money through tee-shirt sales, quilt and afghan raffles, and two fun auctions. Fundraising paid for mowing, tilling, and installing the solar powered water system. Other benefactors donated items such as PVC pipes, pavers, faucets, shovels, rakes, hoses, garden carts, etc.

Does the garden have rules?

Yes. These rules are set by the Extension Service for all Sarasota County community gardens.



History

Dec. 2006 – Culverhouse Family placed a conservation easement on the 82-acre property allowing some agricultural use and stipulated that the county dedicate the land as a quiet, passive nature park.

Dec. 2009 – Friends of Culverhouse Community Garden, a chapter of Friends of Sarasota County Parks, was created.

Apr. 2010 – Sarasota County Parks and Recreation held a Neighborhood Meeting to refine a concept plan for the park.

Jul. 2011 – County Commissioners accepted the deed to the property and formally named it the “Culverhouse Nature Park.”

2012-2013 – While the Friends of Culverhouse Community Garden volunteers built the garden infrastructure, the county Parks and Recreation Department developed Phase One of Culverhouse Nature Park.

Jun. 2013 – Culverhouse Nature Park and Culverhouse Community Garden held a festive opening ceremony.



Need more information or want a garden plot application?
Please visit <http://culverhousegarden.org> and use the Contact Us tab.

5 April 2017