

HORTICULTURE CLUB F.A.Q.

Notes:

1. **LINKS** (bold & in blue) in this FAQ require login on <https://www.sctexas.org>.
2. Name & contact info for officers is on the Club website under [Club and SIG Leaders](#)

Arrange for tilling your Garden bed. 3 steps.

- **Prepare your bed.** Remove irrigation systems, trellis, cages, etc. Add any soil amendments you want.

Login to <https://www.sctexas.org> with your member ID & password!

- **Pay for Tilling** using SC Ticket System. On “Resident Home” look for “Buy Tickets”. Find for “Horticulture Beds, Tilling & Infrastructure” and proceed.
 - The list of tickets is long and it may be hard to find. Most browsers support the **FIND command**.
PC: Ctrl-F Mac: Command-F Phone, you’re on your own
- [Submit Tilling Request](#) on the Horticulture Website

How to buy Club Products, from the ...

- **Greenhouse** - The Greenhouse primary function is to sell plants, grown from seeds, for Spring and Fall gardens.
 1. Enter through either door and pick your plants
 2. Fill out the purchase form with how many plants & prices; forms are on folding table to the left of the entry door (*near coffee pot*).
 3. Payment by...
 - a. Cash or Check. Put the ticket & payment in the slot of the black box (*near the coffee pot*). Instructions should be on the folding table as well.
 - b. IOU. Mark the purchase form as “IOU” & place it on the clipboard next to the payment box. When you return to pay the IOU, find your purchase form on the clipboard, mark it as Paid and place the form & payment in the cash box next to the clipboard.
 4. WARNING – scorpions have been seen – and felt – in the Greenhouse
- **Nursery -or- Compost**
 1. The forms for both are in the painted mailbox near the bagged compost area.
 2. Fill out the *correct* purchase form with what you bought.
 3. Payment by...
 - a. Cash or Check. Put the ticket & payment in the slot of the metal lockbox inside the mailbox.
 - b. IOU. Mark the purchase form as “IOU” & put the form in the metal box. **WITHIN 10 DAYS**, you need to return with cash or check !!! Put payment in an envelope marked with your name & “payment of IOU” for BTN or NURSERY.
- **Iris** can be sold to members at any time.
 - a. The unknown color iris pots are marked with a price on a white stick
 - b. The ones with names are \$6 each or 3 for \$15.
 - c. There is no form to fill out at this time. Put the check in the same mailbox as Nursery items - mark the check as “Iris”.

- **Can I pick fruit from the Orchard or other fruit trees in the Garden? NOT from the Orchard.** You MAY pick a limited number of figs, if there are any available. DO NOT STRIP TREES OF FRUIT – leave some for others.

General Garden Questions

- **How do I volunteer with a SIG?** [Read about the SIGs here.](#) Find the name & contact info for SIG leaders under [Club and SIG Leaders.](#)
- **What happens to lost items at the Gardens?** There's a Lost and Found tub on the barn front porch. For important lost items, e-mail the president and a memo can be sent out. Good idea to put your name and/or bed number on your stuff so it can be returned.
- **Are there SNAKES?** There are 2 poisonous snakes in Sun City - Western Diamondback Rattlesnake and Coral snake - both have been found in the Gardens. Diamondbacks have been curled up on wood chip areas; they blend in with the wood chips. Coral snakes can be anywhere. Be extra careful in the Gardens. Don't wear open toed shoes. Watch where you step and do not reach into areas that are overgrown or not fully exposed. Take care in turning over rocks. If a snake is sighted, do not approach and wait for the snake to move on, or find someone in the gardens to dispatch of the snake.
- **What Club tools can I use?** Any of the large tools behind the barn or the smaller screw drivers and wrenches inside the barn. Be sure to clean and return them to the proper place after use. *Only trained members may use the tillers, mowers and string trimmers.*
- **What do I do with broken tools?** Complete a 'Repair' tag, attach the tag to the item and put it in the Barn for service, if possible. The 'Repair' tags are yellow (easy to see) and in a box mounted to the Mower Corral fence near the Barn back door. Tools includes any cart, wheelbarrow, trimmer, mower, shovel, rake, etc.. If it needs repair, just 'Tag it'.

Garden Bed Questions for renters.

- **I no longer want to rent a bed.** Under Contact Forms - fill out the [Membership and/or Garden Termination Form](#)
- **NOW I want to rent a bed.** Contact the Bed Chair - [Club and SIG Leaders.](#)
- **Can I plant mint?** **NO.** Not in the blocks or bed because it is very invasive.
- **Info on my bed tag needs updating.** Under Contact Forms - [Change your Member Info.](#)
- **How and why should I fill my bed blocks?** This helps keep the blocks straight and prevents critters from living there, like mice, rats, and snakes. Just fill with some of your bed soil so you can add more compost to the bed later.
- **My blocks need straitening. What should I do?** Pull the soil away from the blocks and push the block back into alignment. If this is a very large issue, contact the Bed Chair. Blocks with a "U" or "V" hole are less stable and will need straightening often because they can't be filled to stabilize them.
- **I have broken blocks. How can they be replaced?** Contact the Bed Chair. We keep a small inventory of extras.
- **How high should the wood chips be in my aisle?** Ideally no higher than the middle of the bottom block. Might not be possible in places where over-chipping has already happened. Keep the chips as low as possible and only add a thin layer of chips when you see dirt.

- **How wide should the wood chips be if I'm on the 'end' of a row?** (Example: H 20, I 8, A 10 or P 8?) 12-18 inches. Keeps the weeds and Bermuda out of your bed and the mowing crew doesn't have to come back with a string trimmer.

PAYING for RENEWAL Membership and/or Bed.

- Click <https://www.sctexas.org/Files/Library/27376/HORTPURCHASEDUESNBEDSHOWTO.PDF> for a walk-thru of the steps to renew your membership AND/OR your Garden bed. **PAGES 1-3**

PAYING for NEW Bed Rental & Infrastructure Fee.

- Click <https://www.sctexas.org/Files/Library/27376/HORTPURCHASEDUESNBEDSHOWTO.PDF> for a walk-thru of the steps to pay for the **NEW BED** rental & infrastructure fee. **PAGES 3-5**