

H.O.P.E. Gardens Website Privacy Policy

Last Updated: October 1, 2026

H.O.P.E. Gardens ("HOPE Gardens," "we," "us," or "our") respects your privacy and is committed to protecting the personal information you share with us.

This Privacy Policy explains how we collect, use, and protect information when you visit our website, **hopegardensgr.org**, make a donation, sign up for communications, volunteer, contact us, or otherwise interact with H.O.P.E. Gardens online.

1. Information We Collect

We collect information that you choose to provide to us as well as certain information that may be collected automatically when you use our website.

Information You Provide

Depending on how you interact with H.O.P.E. Gardens, we may collect:

- Your name
- Email address
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Organization or company name
- Information you provide when contacting us
- Volunteer information
- Donation and transaction information
- Information you provide when signing up for newsletters or other communications
- Information you provide when registering for events or programs

We only ask for information that is reasonably necessary for the purpose for which it is collected.

Donation and Payment Information

When you make a donation through our website or a third-party donation platform, your payment information is processed by the applicable payment provider.

H.O.P.E. Gardens does not intentionally collect or store your full credit card or debit card number.

Third-party payment providers may collect and process payment information according to their own privacy policies and terms.

Information Collected Automatically

When you visit our website, certain information may be collected automatically, such as:

- IP address
- Browser type and device information
- Pages you visit
- Date and time of your visit
- General website usage information
- Referring website or webpage

This information may be used to understand how visitors use our website, improve our website, and help maintain website security.

2. Cookies and Website Tracking

Our website may use cookies and similar technologies to help the website function properly and to understand how visitors use the site.

Cookies are small files stored on your device by your web browser. They may help us remember preferences, understand website traffic, and improve the website experience.

We may use third-party services, such as website analytics, donation platforms, email services, or other website tools that use cookies or similar technologies.

You can adjust your browser settings to limit or disable cookies. Some website features may not function properly if cookies are disabled.

3. How We Use Information

H.O.P.E. Gardens may use information we collect to:

- Process donations and provide donation receipts
- Respond to questions or requests
- Communicate with donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters
- Send newsletters or other communications when you have requested or agreed to receive them
- Coordinate volunteer opportunities and events
- Register participants for programs or events
- Improve our website and programs
- Understand website usage and engagement

- Maintain the security of our website and systems
- Meet legal, accounting, and reporting requirements
- Maintain appropriate records of donations and other interactions with H.O.P.E. Gardens

We do not sell your personal information.

4. Email Communications

If you provide your email address and choose to receive communications from H.O.P.E. Gardens, we may send you newsletters, program updates, fundraising information, volunteer opportunities, event information, and other news about our work.

You may unsubscribe from these communications at any time by using the unsubscribe link included in our emails or by contacting us directly.

Even if you unsubscribe from general communications, we may still contact you when necessary regarding a donation, transaction, event registration, volunteer activity, or other request you have made.

5. How We Share Information

H.O.P.E. Gardens does not sell or rent personal information.

We may share limited information with trusted third-party service providers when necessary to operate our organization and provide services to you. These may include:

- Website hosting providers
- Donation and payment processing services
- Email communication services
- Customer or donor relationship management systems
- Event registration or volunteer management platforms
- Website analytics providers
- Professional service providers

These providers receive only the information reasonably necessary to provide their services.

We may also disclose information when required by law, legal process, or governmental request, or when reasonably necessary to protect the rights, safety, or property of H.O.P.E. Gardens or others.

6. Third-Party Websites and Services

Our website may contain links to websites operated by other organizations, businesses, fundraising platforms, social media platforms, or other third parties.

If you follow a link to another website, that website's privacy policy and terms will apply. H.O.P.E. Gardens is not responsible for the privacy practices, content, or security of third-party websites.

7. Children's Privacy

H.O.P.E. Gardens provides garden and STEAM education programs that may involve children and young people. Our website, however, is intended primarily for parents, guardians, educators, community members, donors, volunteers, and other adults.

We do not knowingly use our website to collect personal information directly from children for purposes unrelated to our programs.

When information about children is collected as part of an H.O.P.E. Gardens program, event, registration, photograph, story, or other activity, we seek appropriate permission or authorization from a parent, guardian, school, or other authorized organization when required.

If you believe that a child has provided personal information to us through our website without appropriate permission, please contact us so that we can review the information and take appropriate action.

8. Photographs and Stories

H.O.P.E. Gardens may use photographs, videos, testimonials, or stories from programs and events to share information about our work, demonstrate our impact, and communicate with supporters.

When photographs, videos, or stories involving children or other program participants are used, H.O.P.E. Gardens seeks appropriate permission or authorization when required.

We do not sell photographs or personal stories of program participants.

9. Information Security

We take reasonable steps to protect the personal information we maintain from unauthorized access, use, alteration, or disclosure.

We use appropriate safeguards for the information we collect and work with third-party service providers that use security measures appropriate to the services they provide.

However, no method of transmitting information over the internet or storing information electronically is completely secure. We cannot guarantee absolute security of information.

10. How Long We Keep Information

We retain personal information only for as long as reasonably necessary for the purposes described in this Privacy Policy, including maintaining donation, financial, program, volunteer, and organizational records.

Some information may need to be retained for longer periods to meet legal, accounting, tax, or reporting requirements.

When information is no longer needed, we may securely delete or otherwise dispose of it.

11. Your Privacy Choices

You may contact H.O.P.E. Gardens to:

- Ask what personal information we may have about you
- Request correction of inaccurate information
- Ask us to stop sending you certain communications
- Request deletion of information when appropriate
- Ask questions about how your information is used

Some information may need to be retained when required by law or for legitimate organizational purposes, such as maintaining donation or financial records.

To make a privacy request, please contact us using the information below.

12. Contact Us

If you have questions about this Privacy Policy or how H.O.P.E. Gardens handles personal information, please contact us:

H.O.P.E. Gardens

Help Other People Eat

Grand Rapids / Wyoming, Michigan

Website: hopegardensgr.org

Email: [Insert H.O.P.E. Gardens email address]

13. Changes to This Privacy Policy

H.O.P.E. Gardens may update this Privacy Policy from time to time as our website, programs, or practices change.

When we make changes, we will update the **Last Updated** date at the top of this policy. We encourage you to review this page periodically for the most current information about our privacy practices.

This Privacy Policy is effective as of **October 1, 2026**.