

Township of Lafayette

Community Garden

Rules & Guidelines

PLOT REGISTRATION:

Plot registration is required. Gardeners will be assigned a plot and the garden will be open for planting the first Saturday in May. Each plot will be a 6'X10' raised bed constructed of natural landscape timbers and filled with nutrient rich soil.

RULES OF OPERATION:

Hours: The Community Garden will be open from dawn until dusk each day. Remember to keep the gate closed and lock up when you are the last to leave at any time during the day. You will be provided a combination to the lock on the gate upon paying your registration fee.

Harvesting: Crops must be harvested once they are mature. Leaving mature crops to rot will not be permitted.

Weeding: The Gardener will be responsible for the maintenance of their garden plot which includes weeding. All weeds, rocks and other similar waste are to be disposed of in the designated receptacles or taken off site.

Composter: The Township will be purchasing a composter for the disposal of all organic garden debris. Gardeners should dispose of weeds, plants and discarded fruits and vegetables in the composter receptacle. Gardeners will be responsible for ensuring that the composter is properly closed and secured before leaving the garden in order to prevent attracting animals and rodents.

Watering System: The water system will be supplied from a pitcher pump located in the center of the garden. You must provide your own watering vessel.

RULES OF CONDUCT:

BEHAVIOR: At all times while on the Community Garden grounds, the Gardener agrees to be respectful of other gardeners. The Gardener will keep his/her plot and surrounding areas well-tended, dispose of plant material, rocks and extraneous materials on their own.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS, PRODUCE AND PLANTINGS FROM THE PLOTS OF OTHER GARDENES:

Under no circumstances may the Gardener borrow or remove anything from the plots of other Gardeners. In the event vandalism or theft is discovered, please notify the municipal staff at 973-383-1817 immediately. In addition, please do not water another gardener's plot unless he or she asks that you do so. Anyone caught in the act of vandalism or theft will be removed from the garden immediately and permanently banned from the Community garden.

USE OF FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES: For the health and safety of all participants, only organic methods and products are to be used in the Community garden. Non-Organic pesticides, fungicides and fertilizers are prohibited.

PROHIBITED ITEMS: Decorative garden items are not permitted in plots. Other impermissible items include bug lures, unattended watering mechanisms and the planting of invasive species and cover crops.

GARDEN ABSENCES: Kindly notify Stephanie by filling out the absentee form if you are unable to maintain your plot for any period of time or if you wish to turn your plot back over to the Lafayette Community Garden (please note that Membership and Registration fees are non-refundable). The Community Garden will maintain a list of garden members that will volunteer their time to maintain your garden during your absence if you so choose upon authorization.

VISITORS, GUESTS, CHILDREN: The gardener agrees to accompany and supervise any guest, visitor and/or children brought into the Community Garden at all times and agrees to be responsible for the conduct of any of these parties. The Community garden will not be held responsible for any injuries sustained by any visitor, guest or child.

The Lafayette Community Garden Committee establishes all rules, terms and conditions of participation with the Lafayette Community Garden. By executing this Agreement, the Gardener acknowledges and agrees that in the event that Gardener violates any of the rules, terms and conditions set forth herein, at the sole discretion of the Committee, the Gardener's participation may be immediately suspended and may result in permanent loss of the use of the Gardener's plot. There will be no refund for suspension as the membership and registration fees are non-refundable.

HOLD HARMLESS:

I hereby acknowledge that I have been requested to sign an agreement which states that I will be responsible to make the Township of Lafayette, its directors, officers, agents and employees whole from any claim, lawsuit, settlement, or judgement, including all attorney fees, together with all costs, fees and interest, that arises in or out of the use of municipal property by myself, my guests, invitees, licensees, visitors, or other person(s) present on the premises of the municipality in order to participate in, organize, assist, enjoy, supervise, or in any other way, further the Community Garden and any activities held in conjunction with the Community Garden. Further, in no event will the total liability to the Gardener by the Township of Lafayette, its directors, officers, agents and employees for damages exceed that amount of annual Membership and registration fees.

A separate HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY form will be signed in conjunction with the Membership Agreement. Refusal to sign the document will result in the denial of membership. The Gardener also understands that use of the Community Garden is without any warranties as to fitness for any particular purpose and neither Township of Lafayette, its directors, officers, agents and employees is responsible for any acts of God that may prevent use of and access to the Community Garden at any time. This Membership Agreement is governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

GARDENER’S COMMITMENT:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by these rules, policies and practices stated herein for the participation with the Lafayette Community Garden.

Please sign below (keep a copy of this Agreement and initialed Registration form for your records)

Signature

Print Name

Date