

2019 Community Garden Application and Agreement

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Telephone Number _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

(**Email will be the preferred method of communication between the garden coordinator and registered gardeners. If you do not have email, please indicate this on the line above.)

Names and addresses of others authorized to work my garden:

Please select the plot size that you would like to reserve for the 2019 growing season.

(No more than ONE plot per household address for the 2019 season, unless reserving a raised garden bed. Up to TWO raised beds will be permitted per household address because only one size of raised bed is available. If requesting raised bed, please indicate whether you are requesting 1 or 2 beds. Preference given to disabled and retirement-age gardeners for raised garden beds.)

_____ 5'x10' plot (\$15) _____ 10'x10' plot (\$25) _____ 20'x 10' plot (\$35) _____ 4'x10' raised garden bed (15)

_____ Please check here if you are interested in volunteering to help maintain the garden plot assigned to the Footprints of Montgomery food bank.

_____ Please check here if you are interested in volunteering time for physical set up and construction of the community garden.

By signing below, I indicate and agree that:

- I have included payment for my garden plot with my application. If writing a check, please make it payable to Montgomery Borough.
- I have received and read the rules attached to this application, and agree to abide by them.
- If I fail to maintain my plot, I will receive a written notice for plot clean up. If I fail to clean up my plot within the specified timeframe, my plot may be reassigned or tilled under unless other arrangements are made with the Community Garden Coordinator.
- Failure to comply with the Montgomery Community Garden rules may result in immediate cancellation of my privilege to use the Community Garden.
- I release Montgomery Borough and all of its representatives, agents and employees of liability for any injury I may sustain while working in or around my garden plot.

Applicants Signature and Date

**RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PAYMENT BY APRIL 15th TO
MONTGOMERY BOROUGH OFFICE, 35 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MONTGOMERY**

TENTATIVE 2019 COMMUNITY GARDENING EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Education sessions will be FREE of charge, and open to anyone within the Montgomery School District, even if they are not participating in the Community Garden. Sessions will be 45-90 minutes in length, depending on the topic. Evening sessions will be held at Montgomery Borough Hall; specific dates TBA.

January – Seed starting, planting/growing seasons, plant swap

February – Plant spacing and companion planting

March – Composting, mulching, and soil health

April – Plant diseases

May – Garden boxes, shading, trellis growing

June – Good bugs, bad bugs

July – TBA / as needed

Open discussions: Date(s) for plant swap and produce swap events

2019 Montgomery Community Garden Rules

1. Garden plot rental is available only to residents of the Montgomery Area School District. Proof of residency required. Use of the garden for commercial purposes is prohibited.
2. Plot rental fee must be paid before gardeners begin care of their plot. Seasonal plot rental fees are as follows for the 2019 growing season:
 - a. 5'x10' plot - \$15
 - b. 10'x10' plot - \$25
 - c. 20'x 10' plot - \$35
 - d. 4'x10' raised garden bed - \$15
3. Plots are limited to one per family unit or address, and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Raised garden beds are the only exception to this, as they are available in only one size. Raised beds are reserved for those who have difficulty getting down to the ground to effectively maintain their plot. If you are not sure whether or not a raised bed is appropriate for you, please contact the Community Garden Coordinator.
4. The Borough is not responsible for personal property left onsite.
5. Once open for the season, gardeners must begin working their plot within 21 days. (If registering after the garden has opened for the season, gardeners must begin working their plot within 21 days of registration.) Plots that have not been cleaned and prepared for gardening within 21 days may be assigned to another applicant without further notice.
6. 2019 opening day will be May 1st. 2019 closing day will be October 31st unless arrangements are otherwise made with the Community Garden Coordinator.
7. The garden is open dawn to dusk, seven days a week.
8. Garden plots will be tilled, at no charge, prior to May 1st. Gardeners must provide their own tools for the 2019 growing season.
9. Newspaper is not allowed as a mulching agent/weed barrier.
10. Family members are welcome to the garden site. Please supervise young children so they don't disturb other plots. Walking across other plots is prohibited without permission of the plot's gardener.
11. Pets are not allowed in the Community Garden.
12. Please keep walkways free of debris and equipment.
13. Gardeners are encouraged to plant vegetables and fruits with a large growing radius (tomato, squash, melons, etc.) near the center of their plots to avoid infringing on the walkway and on your neighbor's growing space. Gardeners should not plant tall crops in areas that will shade neighboring plots.
14. Weeds and weedy vines must be removed promptly. Pulled weeds and other plant debris should be placed in the designated compost piles.
15. There is no garbage service at the Community Garden. All trash that is not organic and biodegradable must be removed from the site by the gardener (e.g. bags, seed packets, etc.).
16. Gardeners must not practice any horticultural technique such as fertilizing, watering, using pesticides, etc., that will in any way affect adjacent plots. Application should not occur on windy days. The application of any herbicides is strictly forbidden.

17. Although the garden is not specified as an "organic garden", we encourage gardeners to consider alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides. Gardeners are strongly encouraged to cover their plot(s) with mulch as an excellent method of weed control. Mulching techniques will be reviewed prior to gardening season during community education sessions. If you are unfamiliar with mulching techniques, and unable to attend the community education session, contact the Community Garden Coordinator (see below) for additional information.
18. Individual fencing of plots is allowed. Please keep structures less than 3 feet tall and neat in appearance. Gardeners may not store excess lumber, fencing, or other materials not actively in use at their plots for and safety reasons. All fences should be removed by October 31st.
19. The gardens must be cleaned for winter no later than October 31st. This involves removing dead plants, stakes, temporary fences, personal property, trash, etc. Please keep the community gardens looking tidy throughout the year, and pick up common areas, to prevent complaints about the program.
20. Gardeners who are unexpectedly unable to attend their plots, or will have a planned absence for more than 7 days, or plan to have a friend or relative care for their garden should notify the Community Garden Coordinator as soon as possible (contact information is below).
21. If garden plots are not maintained a notice will be sent to the gardener. The borough reserves the right to till or mow and reassign the plot if corrective action is not taken within the time specified in the notice.
22. Crops should be harvested when they are mature. Plot holders may not harvest crops from plots other than the one they are assigned.
23. Plots may not be transferred without permission of the Community Garden Coordinator (see contact information below).
24. Use of power garden equipment (tillers, etc.) is allowed, but is restricted to the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.
25. Any desired soil testing is the responsibility of the gardener. Soil test kits are available from the Lycoming County Penn State Extension Office, 542 County Farm Rd, Suite #206, Montoursville, PA 17754, for just \$9.
26. The use of poisons, firearms, lethal traps or similar dangerous methods to control pests in the garden is strictly prohibited.
27. Sale of garden products on -site is prohibited.
28. Radios and other sound devices should be used only when no one else is working in the garden.
29. Details of water source are still being settled. Additional information regarding water source and use of supplied water will be forthcoming for the 2019 growing season.
30. Community Garden Coordinator is Susan Andrews. All questions about the garden should be directed to the Garden Coordinator.
The best means of communication for routine questions/business is email: susan@valleyrehabilitation.com.
For those without email access, questions can be directed by phone: 570-547-0480
An emergency phone number will be provided to registered gardeners at the beginning of gardening season.