

The Ringwood Community Garden

Owned by the Community Presbyterian Church, Sponsored by Eat Local

Registration Form, Fall 2010

Please print all information clearly. Return to The Community Presbyterian Church at 145 Carletondale Rd., Ringwood, NJ 07456. Phone: 973-962-4864; email: amyjolin@optonline.net. Make checks payable to Community Church of Ringwood

Contact Information:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SIZE OF GARDEN BED 4'x10' (\$30) 8'x8' (\$50) 8'x 16" (\$70)

GARDEN PARTICIPATION:

Each family that becomes a member of the Ringwood Community Garden commits to participating in the following:

- 4 hours of Spring clean up and mulching
- 4 hours of Fall clean up
- Ongoing weeding and maintenance of the garden grounds
- Adherence to the Garden Rules (listed on page 3)
- Active participation on a Community Garden Committee (described on page 2)

The committee my family will participate in will be: _____

I agree to abide by these Garden Participation rules. Please sign below.

name _____

date _____

COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEES

Treasurer Registrar	Collects fees for the season, Organizes sign up sheet/application and keeps database of gardeners. Assigns plots, keeps track of which plot goes to which family from year to year.
Installation and Upkeep crew:	mends fences, recruits volunteers to make improvements to gates, fences, plots, new beds, etc.
Tools and Pests:	recognizes pests in the garden and communicates the remedies to gardeners. Organizes tools, keep tools area neat, and keep the tools stocked with what is needed in garden.
Events coordinator: Education committee:	manages garden cleanup, education programs recruits guest speakers on seed saving, planting, canning, etc.
CFA Garden Gleener Charity Plot Organizer	Collects food from a charity plot to deliver to the CFA on Tuesdays Sets up charity plot, plants the plot and recruits volunteers to tend, harvest, and deliver produce to the CFA.
Water Crew:	Builds Rain Barrels and trains gardeners on their use.
Soil Crew:	Hauls or arranges for delivery of compost, manure, and soil amendments.
Communications Coordinator	Communicates with gardeners about garden events and concerns.
Garden Coordinator and Complaints Department: <i>Amy Jolin</i>	resolves disputes, adjusts rules to meet the needs of the group, communicates with gardeners about changes

Community Garden Rules

Introduction

- The Ringwood Community Garden (RCG) is a communal endeavor focused on making vegetable garden beds available to Ringwood residents who are unable to grow plants at home. The RCG is located on property generously provided by The Community Presbyterian Church of Ringwood
- **Growing Practices.** Gardeners should avoid toxic chemicals on their plants. They are encouraged to use animal or vegetable fertilizers rather than synthetics, using natural pest controls instead of industrial insecticides, companion planting and attractants to control pests.

- **Fees**

Narrow-bed 4'x10' (\$30) Single Bed 8'x8' (\$50) Double Bed 8'x 16" (\$70)

- Garden fees help cover garden expenses. On occasion, non-standard sizes plots may become available at a price to be determined at that time. The fee is due with the completion of the Application Form, at the first meeting of the RCG every year, or whenever a new member joins. You should expect to budget additional monies to cover the costs of seeds and seedlings, and organic/natural soil amendments that might be needed as well as any other supplies needed to grow your plants.

- **The Ringwood Community Garden will provide:**

- A 4X10 narrow, 8X8 single, or 8X16 double raised bed plot of land in the garden.
- Unimproved topsoil to fill the raised bed.
- Garden fence with gate.
- Water source from rain barrels or hose
- Basic gardening tools (rakes, shovels, wheelbarrow, etc) to be returned to storage immediately after use. You are welcome to use your own tools too.
- A location outside of the garden for disposal of weeds and diseased clippings.
- Communal storage for extra harvest to be donated to local food pantries.
- **An environment in which rules will be applied to everyone for the benefit of the garden as a whole and its members.**

- **Plot owners commitment**

- Gardening requires an investment of time and energy. In the early part of the season, it may be limited to opening the plot, getting it ready for planting, and then watering the soil as needed. As time goes on, the plot needs to be weeded, plants need to be thinned and/or pinched/pruned back as needed, possibly staked, and other wise nurtured. Throughout the season, sick plants are to be removed and properly disposed of, bugs removed, the plot watered regularly as needed, crops harvested, and fallen/overripe/damaged crops removed. The time you need to put into your plot will vary with the plants you chose to grow. It is important that you take care of your plot and plants... both for the health of the plants and the overall

wellbeing of the garden as a whole. You should expect to allocate 1 to 2 hours per week to your garden plot and other garden activities. If you will not have the time/energy to care for the plot, consider sharing a plot with someone else.

- As your plants approach harvest time, please make sure that you'll be there often enough to harvest your crop to take home or donate to the pantry bins. Excess edible crops (beyond your own capacity to enjoy, preserve or give away to friends) should be donated to the Center for Food Action.
- If you want to abandon your plot for any reason, notify the garden director as soon as possible. Abandoned plots will be made available to the next person on the waiting list. If you need to abandon your plot prior to May 15, the annual fee is refundable. After that date, the fee will not be refunded.
- If you plan to be on vacation or otherwise can't tend the plot for a limited period of time, Please make arrangements with another garden member to care for the plot in your absence.
- Every plot owner will need to actively participate in one or more committees,

Maintenance

- Garden members will control weeds in their own plot and in the areas immediately surrounding the plot. Please put the weeds in the compost pile outside of the garden.
- If a plot becomes unkempt, (i.e. growing over into someone elses plot, blocked walkways, etc.), the garden member will be notified to clean it up. After that time, it will be considered abandoned and may be re-assigned or tilled in.
- You will keep trash and litter out of the garden. Any waste must be taken with you when you leave every day.

Rules and Expectations

- Pets are not permitted in the garden.
- Personal music devises (MP3 or ipod players) with headphones are permitted- no audible music.
- You will have children who are visiting and working with you stay in the garden area at all times and remain under your control.
- Restrooms in the church are available when the church is open.
- Alcohol is not permitted in the garden.
- You are expected to participate in the fall cleanup of the garden, including removing any plants/weeds from your plot, adding manure and newspaper to reinvigorate the soil, and lastly cover the plot with plastic sheets held in placed by rocks.
- You may plant tall crops only where they will not shade neighboring plots.
- You will pick only your own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
- You will not use any toxic fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents.
- You agree to volunteer time toward communal community gardening efforts, such as the spring opening, fall closing, cleanups, fence damage repairs, weeding common area etc.
- Help neighbors if you can. Ask for help if you need it.