

# Community Garden Rules and Regulations 2019

Administered by the Bloomfield Township Community Garden Committee



**Anyone who signs a garden agreement is expected to comply with the rules and regulations so that all members can enjoy the benefits the garden offers.**

**Fence & Locks:** Although we have not had problems with vandalism or thievery, it is important for all gardeners to ensure our garden and equipment is locked securely after you have exited so we reduce possibility of such problems. Be mindful of locking the gate and putting the key back in the lock box correctly.

The key to unlock the gate is in a lock box hanging off the handball court fence. Gardeners will be given the confidential combination for the lockbox and are expected to not share it with non-members.

Gardeners will be shown how to open the lockbox. Take the gate key to unlock the fence. You also need to lock the fence when you leave. While the gate may close after you, it doesn't lock until you turn the key in the lock to the left. You are expected to return the key/pad to the lockbox and secure it in the box. While we welcome visitors, gardeners may consider securely closing or locking the gate while visiting the garden, so they aren't surprised.

**Organic Gardening:** This is a poison-free organic garden. Non-organic fungicides, herbicides or fertilizers can be used in the garden. Illegal or invasive plants are not permitted.

**Volunteering:** All garden members must attend mandatory garden dates and must volunteer one (1) hour per month to help with general garden chores (mowing, weeding, maintaining a beautiful space.)

**Tools:** Gardeners are welcome to use tools and materials that are in the sheds but must clean off any dirt and return the tools in the way they were found.

**Composting:** Composters are located on site. Compostable garden waste should be composted as instructed in the composting brochure. Gardeners are encouraged to bring compostable materials from home.

**Water line:** When you are finished, make sure the water is properly shut off by closing the handle. Wrap the hose as indicated.

**Hoses:** Please treat the hoses and watering wands with care; please do not yank them and don't leave them knotted for the next person to untangle. The watering wands should be left draped on the water line and the hoses should be neatly wound in round circles around the structures when you are done. Do not leave the hoses draped around the garden or the wands on the ground.

**Watering the beds:** Unattended watering (i.e. walking away while watering) is not permitted. To efficiently and effectively use our scarce resource, water the beds at ground level (not the top of the plants). Unless you have permission, do not water other gardeners' beds.

**Garden Absence:** Each garden plot renter is responsible for maintaining his or her own plot. In the event of a family emergency, illness or injury, vacation, or other unforeseen circumstance, please reach out for assistance by arranging for another gardener (who has a signed current and valid Community Garden Contract on file) to tend the garden plot, reach out to the Pulaski Community Garden Group by email: [PulParkCommGarden@googlegroups.com](mailto:PulParkCommGarden@googlegroups.com) and/or reach out to the community garden committee by email: [BloomfieldNJGardens@gmail.com](mailto:BloomfieldNJGardens@gmail.com). A watering flag will be placed in your plot to indicate this plot needs to be watered. During your absence, ripe crops may be harvested and plants growing over the border may be trimmed.

**Structures:** At this time only temporary construction that allows airflow like trellises, stakes and tomato cages are allowed so they can be easily removed at the end of the season. We ask that no storage containers or tools be left behind to discourage theft. Per the agreement, none of the entities overseeing or involved with the garden can be held responsible for missing or damaged items.

**Closing Day / End of the season:** By late November we expect all fencing, stakes, etc. must be removed from garden plots. All plants and weeds must be pulled and composted or thrown away. Useable, disease-free and insect-free garden waste can be composted. After the plot is inspected by the Garden Committee, renters can request to renew the plot for the next season. *Gardeners who wish to do cold-weather gardening must notify the Garden Committee of their intentions. When they have finished cold-weather gardening, the plot must be cleaned up before the next season's contract is renewed.*

