

# Bloomfield Community Garden Agreement 2020 Season

Administered by the Bloomfield Township Community Garden Committee

Milbank Community Garden: 264 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Pulaski Park Community Garden: 24 Mount Vernon Ave, Bloomfield, NJ 07003



- A. Introduction:** The Bloomfield Community Gardens are an initiative through the Bloomfield Community Garden Committee to encourage gardening in the township and to provide gardening resources to township residents. Bloomfield's Neighbor-to-Neighbor Network (NTNN) also partners with the Community Gardens.
- B. Fees:** Plots are available to rent per garden season for Bloomfield Residents ONLY. The person filling out the agreement must be 18 years of age or older, but family members can use the plot with the permission of the responsible party. **Plots are not transferable** which means that should a gardener not be able to maintain his or her plot, the committee should be notified immediately by email: [bloomfieldnjgardens@gmail.com](mailto:bloomfieldnjgardens@gmail.com). The committee will then reassign the plot.

**Regular member seasonal rental fee:** \$50 for one 4' x 8' raised bed garden plot.

**Veterans: fees are waived, but the contract must be signed.**

**Plot fee is non-refundable.** After the fee is paid in full and the signed contract submitted, the gardener will be assigned a plot. As long as the plot is maintained, and the gardener abides by the rules and regulations outlined in this contract and in the township ordinance and posted in the garden, they will have the option to renew their membership by Dec. 31 for the following season.

Only one plot per household will be assigned. In the case of full capacity, we will start a waitlist and notify each person in the order received when a plot is available. Requests for a second plot will be considered through a lottery drawing only if there are open plots and no wait list.

- C. Obligations of Gardeners:** The main obligation is to keep the community garden happy, secure and an enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner. Gardeners should respect the integrity of other plots and conduct themselves in a responsible manner on the premises. Gardeners are also required to follow the rules and regulations of the park department.

**Gardeners must keep their plot and plot perimeter maintained regularly including: control of weeds, pests and disease with organic products, staking plants to keep plants within the plot, harvesting upon maturity and disposing of waste in the proper place. If you are unable to maintain your plot, please notify the committee immediately.**

**If a plot is not maintained or abandoned, the following steps will be taken:**

- First, a *verbal* warning will be given.
- If there is no response or correction after 7 days, the gardener will receive a *written* notice.
- If, after another 7 days, the violation has not ceased or been fixed, the plot will be forfeited, and the gardener will lose his/her privileges and plot for the remainder of the season.



**Vegetables must be harvested when they ripen. If you cannot harvest your produce in a timely fashion the garden committee reserves the right to first notify you, then pick the produce so it can be donated to NTNN.** Any gardener who has extra produce is welcome to contribute with donating some of their harvest to NTNN or a designated service over the course of the season. Crop donations are not mandatory.

**D. Mandatory Dates and Volunteer Hours:**

**Opening Day & Garden Orientation -- Mandatory attendance for all new and returning members:**

Opening Day is the orientation where we review garden policies; introduce the gardeners and get the garden ready for the season.

**Pulaski Park Community Garden: Opening Day Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 pm:**

**Milbank Park Community Garden: Opening Day Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 pm:**

**Closing Day -- Mandatory attendance for all members.** This is the final date to cleanup garden beds and overall garden space in preparation for winter. Garden members in good standing are welcome to renew their contract for the next season.

**Pulaski Park Community Garden: Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 from 10 am – 12**

**Milbank Park Community Garden: Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 from 10 am – 12**

**pm:** final cleanup for plots and overall garden cleanup.

**Volunteering: All gardeners must volunteer two (2) hours per month during the season to help with general garden chores and must log their monthly volunteer hours on the sign-up sheet** located inside the shed.

**Primary Volunteer Activity:** includes mowing and weed whacking pathways, weeding the fenced garden perimeter, watering flowers around perimeter, placing ripe crops from donation plots in cooler for weekly donations and (notifying the garden committee whenever donations need to be made), turning composting in compost bins, cleaning garden tools, maintaining compost bins and bird bath, adding woodchips to aisles, building gardening spaces, assisting with gardening events and activities, participating in monthly garden days, and overall helping the to keep the garden space looking neat and tidy. The garden is completely run by volunteers and is only able to exist thanks to the enormous amounts of time and energy we all put into the space.

*(A great way to complete volunteer hours is by joining the CommuniTEA event held on the first Saturday of every month from 9 am until 11 am. During this time gardeners get together, catchup, enjoy coffee and tea, BYOS (bring your own snack to share and tackle volunteer tasks together.)*

**E. Rules and Regulations:** Anyone who signs a garden agreement is expected to comply with the garden rules and regulations provided along with this contract so that we can all enjoy the benefits the garden offers.



**Please return this last page with payment**  
**Please keep first two pages of the contract for your reference.**

**F. Bloomfield Township Community Garden Membership Agreement:** *By signing below, I agree that I have read and understood this application including the obligations & rules for participation in the Bloomfield Community Garden program. I understand that if I do not follow the information outlined herein, I may lose my membership, and/or my plot will be reassigned. I may receive an amended version of this agreement to sign in the future if the committee members decide to change anything included above.*

*It is my responsibility to contact the Bloomfield Community Garden Committee if I am going to be unable to maintain my plot on a weekly basis or if I have any questions.*

*I use this garden at the discretion of the Bloomfield Community Garden Committee and must abide by the rules and regulations stated in the Bloomfield Township Community Garden Ordinance. I will contact the committee if I have any dispute or issue that needs attention.*

*I hereby agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the Township of Bloomfield, Bloomfield Community Garden Committee, Neighbor-to-Neighbor Network, Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs, and any person charged with the administration of the garden from any liability, damage, loss or claim arising out of or in connection with the use of the garden by me or any of my family or guests, agents, or invitees.*

**Gardener's Signature** (Must be over 18 and a Bloomfield Resident- Must be able to provide proof of residency). The \$50.00 payment can be made by cash or check. **Checks should be made payable to: Township of Bloomfield**  
Send checks with completed and signed contract to: Bloomfield Municipal Hall, Room 203, One Municipal Plaza, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clearly print E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clearly print CELL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **HOME PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one garden location:

**Milbank Park Community Garden** located at 264 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
-or-

**Pulaski Park Community Garden** located at 24 Mount Vernon Ave, Bloomfield, NJ 07003

For office use: Milbank / Pulaski Park Plot Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Initialed: \_\_\_\_\_

Verification of address: \_\_\_\_\_

Plot Fee Received: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_\_\_ Veteran \_\_\_\_\_ (proof:) \_\_\_\_\_

