



2020 EMERSON COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION

Emerson's Community Garden is located within the Borough's Centennial Park, across from the Emerson Jr. Sr. High School on Main Street. This year's garden will consist of 24 plots, each 4' by 8'. **All plots will be assigned to residents on a first come, first served basis and is strictly open to Emerson residents only.** If we receive more than 24 applicants, then we'll **assign "half plots"** as a way to accommodate demand, welcome more participants to the Garden, and avoid a waiting list.

The garden is intended for growing annual fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers. Please do not plant any perennials, as your plot location may change each year. The Borough will provide water and soil. Gardeners shall provide their own tools, plants and other gardening supplies. Every gardener is asked to participate to the best of their abilities in the management and upkeep of the entire garden.

2020 Community Garden Guidelines

The following Community Garden Guidelines have been established by the members of Emerson's Environmental Commission to help ensure safety and fairness in the garden. We kindly ask that you review and adhere to all rules listed below:

1. **Plan to visit your garden two to three times a week during the growing season. Attend any scheduled garden meetings, if any.** This will help you meet other gardeners and become part of your gardening community.
2. **Put plantings in your garden plot within 30 days of your plot being assigned.** We often receive more applications than available garden plots. If you change your mind about using your garden plot, please email envsec@emersonnj.org immediately, so another resident can participate.
3. We encourage you to **make friends with other gardeners.** Experienced gardeners are an invaluable resource at your garden. Visit their plots to see how they stake their tomatoes or trellis their beans, etc.
4. **Do not pick anything from another person's plot without their approval.** That said, we do encourage all participants to **harvest produce on a regular basis.** Some people use the excuse that "a lot of food is going to waste" to justify taking food from a garden without permission. During harvest season, let garden leaders know if you plan to be out of town for more than a few days.
5. Please **report any theft, vandalism or unusual activity** related to the Community Garden directly to the Emerson Police Department.
6. At the end of the gardening season, all dead plants and non-plant materials (string, wire, wood, metal, plastic, etc.) must be removed and disposed of properly. **We request all garden plots be cleaned out by Thanksgiving weekend 2020, at the latest.**

7. **There are 2 compost bins on-site.** Please put dead plant materials into the compost bins. **Do not put weeds into the compost bins, since this may spread their seeds.** Any diseased plants are to be bagged and put in the trash so as to not contaminate the gardens.
8. **Illegal plants are prohibited.** As for tall plants, they should be planted where they will not interfere with your neighbor's plot. Vines are allowed; however, please try to trellis them to maintain them within your garden plot specs.
9. **Chemical pesticide or fertilizers are prohibited.** Organic fertilizer such as cow or chicken manure is allowed. Natural items such as, coffee grinds and eggshells are allowed; however, composting of larger amounts must be contained within the composting bins.
10. Water is available from **6:00AM to 6:00PM**, and all participants are encouraged to conserve its use. Please **do not water another person's plot** unless they ask you to.
11. Please **supervise children and pets** in the Community Garden. And, be sure to **LOCK THE GATE** upon existing to keep deer and other wildlife out of the gated Garden.
12. **Only garden during daylight hours.** The Community Garden will be open 7 days a week, sun-up to sundown. "After-hours" are not permitted.
13. **Violation of these Guidelines** may result in the loss of community gardening privileges.

2020 Community Garden Application

For those interested in applying for a Community Garden plot, **please scan this signed form and send to: envsec@emersonnj.org.**

While email is our preferred method, applicants can also submit completed applications to the Borough Clerk's Office in person. The Borough Clerk is located at Emerson Borough Hall, 146 Linwood Avenue. Phone: 201-262-6086 option 9; Fax: 201-262-0938

1. Gardener and/or Garden Family: _____

2. Emerson Address: _____

3. Phone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

4. Valid Email Address: _____

Please note that upon applicant confirmation, the EEC will work with each applicant to verify their Emerson residency

By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the Gardener Guidelines and plan to abide by all of the garden rules. I understand that neither the garden group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to hold harmless the garden group and owners of the land for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connections with the use of the garden by me or my guests.

Signature

Date