



2017 Share Garden Agreement

Independence Township
 Department of Parks, Recreation & Seniors
 6483 Waldon Center Drive
 Clarkston, MI 48346 (After hours drop box is on the parking lot side of building)
 Fax: (248) 620-7454

Independence Township Parks, Recreation & Seniors is excited by your interest in becoming a share gardener. You are now a part of a growing trend in urban agriculture and local food production. Whether your interest lies in growing produce, flowers, or ornamental plants, you are agreeing to share use of land on which you will garden with other members of your community. The Clarkston Community Garden belongs to all of you and its direction depends on you. Voice your opinion. Make it yours.

Please complete the following application and remit it with payment to the address above.

Name of Share Gardener	Address
City/State/Zip	Email (this is where we will send garden news)
Primary Phone Number Secondary Phone Number	Name, Email, & Phone of Other Gardeners Using Plot
Plot(s) # Desired	
(If you don't have a preference, please list the quantity of plots wanted here: 1 2 3 4)	
___ Number of years as a Clarkston Community Garden Share Gardener ___ Number of people in the household that will be benefiting from the garden Please list the benefits of participating in the Share Garden program: <hr/> <input type="checkbox"/> Each season, a list of Share Gardens is compiled with phone numbers and emails. Please share my contact information with fellow Share Gardeners. This list is NOT distributed to the public nor posted anywhere publically.	

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

FEES & REFUNDS FOR PLOTS

Plots are 10ft x 10ft and are \$30 residents of Independence Township/\$40 non-residents of Independence Township each. Fees grant you the right to garden your plot until the end of the 2017 calendar year and are non-refundable. Cash, check or credit cards are accepted. Payment is due upon plot reservation.

Refunds must be requested by June 9, 2017. A \$10 service fee will be withheld. There will be no refunds issued after this date. All refunds will be refunded in the form of an Account Credit, check or your VISA/MC will be credited. Items must be refunded in the way they were paid, unless you are requesting an Account Credit. No cash refunds will be given. Check refunds will be issued according to the Township Finance Department's bill-paying schedule, which may take 4-6 weeks. Account Credits will remain on the customer's account from one year from the date of the credit posting.

PLOT ASSIGNMENT

You will receive a copy of your application notifying you of your plot assignment. The plot assignment is yours until the end of 2017 unless:

- You request a refund.
- You surrender your plot.
- You turn your plot over to another gardener (please see *Making Alternate Care Arrangements*).
- Your contract is terminated because of non-compliance with the Clarkston Community Garden Guidelines.

You may keep your plot as long as you abide by the terms and conditions and re-register each season.

PETS

No pets are allowed within the Garden boundaries. Pets are welcome on park property but must be kept on a 6ft leash and picked up after.

SHARE GARDENER RIGHTS

1. You have the right to garden in your assigned space through the 2017 calendar year.
2. You have the right to access water.
3. You have the right to equal opportunity and non-discrimination.
4. You have the right to a reasonable harmonious environment and to appropriate conflict resolution measures when necessary.

SHARE GARDENER RESPONSIBILITIES

Share gardeners must:

1. **Contribute 10 or more volunteer hours to the Community Garden during public hours of operation.** The Community Garden experience is all about sharing time and energy with the community and your fellow gardeners. Public hours are on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 9am-Noon 6/1-10/1. Volunteer hours can be spent planting, weeding, harvesting, or working on a special project. Hours should be completed by ***October 1***.
2. **Record volunteer hours on the form in the mailbox at the garden.** The garden's funding and future grant eligibility depend on our having accurate records on amount of community involvement. There is a column to record your personal plot hours too. Please sign in every time you come out! For Farmers' Market hours, please record your hours on the on-site sign in and cash sheet, located in the cash box. For other off site volunteer hours, please email information to Garden Manager after each event so that they can be added to the master spreadsheet.
3. Actively garden their plots, including watering, weeding, fertilizing, and amending the soil.
4. Maintain plot appearance by cleaning up litter, storing tools, harvesting produce, and removing dead or dying plants. Unwanted plant parts and rotten produce may be added to the compost bins or worked into the soil.

If a plot becomes unkempt at any time its owner will be given a one-time warning as a courtesy. Compliance is expected within two weeks. Non-compliance will result in loss of plot. The plot will be reassigned to a gardener on the waitlist.

5. Water responsibly, minimizing water waste. They will water no other plots unless specifically requested to do so.
6. Respect others' plots and only harvest or work in other gardener's plots if given permission by that gardener.
7. Be aware of others present and get to know them by name.
8. Keep children focused, working on family plots or playing in designated areas such as the sandboxes or outside of garden boundaries. There will be no throwing of anything (stones, dirt, sticks, tools, etc.) and no ball playing.
9. Tend to and be responsible for any visitors and guests they may bring into the garden.

10. Attempt to learn and use organic gardening methods to produce more disease-resistant/pest-free plants and more nutritious fruits and vegetables. No herbicides or pesticides may be used without approval of the Garden Coordinator. If gardeners are in doubt about the use of a fertilizer, they will check with the Garden Coordinator.
11. Report problems, vandalism, or damage to the Garden Coordinator.

Share gardeners must not:

1. Alter the dimensions of their plots or any of the surrounding area.
2. Give away their plots to another gardener. In case of illness or other life emergencies, please see the guidelines listed under *Making Alternate Care Arrangements*.
3. Smoke and/or chew tobacco on site. Tobacco carries the tobacco mosaic virus which is easily transmitted—and fatal—to other plants.
4. Grow noxious weeds, illegal substances, or vegetables, vines or fruit that will interfere with other gardeners' enjoyment of their gardening experience.

GARDEN ACCESS

As a part of the Clarkston Community Garden Share Garden program, Gardeners will be given access to Park property.

- Gardeners may enter the Garden to work their plots during daylight hours, seven days a week.
- Gardeners receive a key to the entrance gate which may not be copied or given to anyone else.
- The gate should be locked even when gardeners are in the garden *unless it is during public gardening hours*. This means, during non-public hours, upon arrival the gate will be locked by each Share Gardener. Upon departure, the gate will be locked each Share Gardener.
- Keys will need to be returned to the Department if not re-signing up for an additional year of Share Gardening.
- If keys are lost, a \$10 replacement key fee will be charged.

MAKING ALTERNATE CARE ARRANGEMENTS

In case of illness, travel, inability to continue to care for a plot, et al, gardeners must notify the Garden Coordinator to make arrangements for plot care. If either the gardener or the coordinator finds a person to temporarily care for the plot, this person will sign a temporary version of this agreement to end on a specified date not to exceed the end of that year. The Garden Coordinator must approve any temporary caretaker.

Please continue on the next page.

LEGAL NOTICE

On behalf of myself, I assume all responsibility for the above activity sponsored by the Independence Township Department of Parks, Recreation & Seniors and with the respect to any actions taken in pursuance of such activities either before or after the activity. Moreover, it is agreed that the Township of Independence and its several departments, officers, and employees shall not be liable nor responsible for any property damage and/or personal injury and/or other loss or damage suffered. I release and forever discharge each of such entities and persons from any and all actions, causes of actions, claims and demands with respect to any and all such damage, injury or loss. In the event of any injury, permission is hereby given to the Department of Parks, Recreation & Seniors and to the Director of such department to see that first aid and medical attention are given, at the discretion of the Director of the Department, or his or her agent or employee in connection with the activity in question. I represent that I am in good physical condition and am able to participate in the above activity and am responsible for my own health and acknowledge that this activity in which I am enrolling may be injurious, and I accept risk with full knowledge that some programs require the assistance of unscreened volunteers. Photographs may be taken at certain Department activities, and, unless the department receives signed, written objections, photos may be reproduced for publication.

Signature of Share Gardener

Date

Signature of Share Gardener

Date

Signature of Share Gardener

Date

FOR OFFICE USE

Amount Paid	
Date Paid	
Plot Assignment(s)	
Keys	Were they given a key? If yes, what key #____. Initial key is free; Additional copies may be purchased for \$10.
Staff Initials	