



Growing Greens Milford Community Garden 2017 Season Contract

The Growing Greens Milford organic community garden is a place for growing and learning. We have set the following rules and policies so that everyone can enjoy the garden. As a gardener, I will abide by the following rules, terms and conditions:

General Policies and Procedures

- 1) Members will use the Growing Greens Milford (GGM) Community Garden at the sole discretion of the community garden membership guidelines, and hereby agree to abide by its policies and practices.
- 2) Most of our plots are approximately 15' by 15' - the fee is \$35. We have a small number of slightly larger plots in the garden. The fee for these plots is \$40. There is a one-time, per plot, clean-up deposit of \$20. The deposit will forward to the following year for returning gardeners. Plots are allocated on a 'first come first served' basis for new gardeners.
- 3) Returning gardeners will be able to renew their plot from the previous year with a signed contract and **payment by April 30** of the new garden year.

Garden Upkeep – responsibilities of all gardeners

- 4) I am responsible for keeping my plot and the paths surrounding it neat and clean. I will compost plant waste on my own garden or take refuse home.
- 5) I am responsible for the care and condition of any common equipment I use.
- 6) I understand that this is a community garden, and the following chores are expected of every gardener:
 - a) **Watering** – I will sign up for two weeks during the growing season to fill water barrels, one week before July 15 and one week after July 15, if I have two water barrels I will sign up for one additional barrel fill. If I cannot make one of my scheduled times, it is my responsibility to find someone to replace me. During my barrel filling time I will water the flower and Volunteer gardens. Typically barrels are filled twice in one week. Training on how to set up/use the pump will be during the Spring workdays.
 - b) **Workdays** – I will work 1 Spring and 1 Fall workday. (see calendar for dates)
 - c) **Weeding** – I will maintain weed free pathways around my garden
 - d) **Harvest** – I will harvest and/or donate vegetables as they ripen. I will abide by the GGM policy to prevent food waste. The goal is to avoid letting fruit rot on the vine. If you will not be able to harvest, please contact the Volunteer Garden committee so that the produce may be picked for donation and not go to waste.
- 7) I will be respectful of other gardeners' plants, plots and property.
- 8) No pets allowed.
- 9) Guests and visitors of members, including children, may enter the garden area only when accompanied by the member, and must obey all GGM rules while on the garden premises. Members are responsible for the activities and behavior of guests, visitors, and children.
- 10) I am committed to maintaining the garden as a happy, secure and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully.

Garden Plot Design and Use

- 11) I will tend my plot well, promoting healthy soil and plants with organic growing practices. I will keep my plot and its borders free of weeds and diseased plants.
- 12) I will maintain three foot walkways around the perimeter of my garden, except where bordered by the fence.
- 13) I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot (specifically not growing into the walkways).
- 14) I will plant taller plants in the middle of my plot, where they will not cast shade on neighboring gardeners' plots.
- 15) I will place any temporary structures (trellises, hoops & supports) at least one foot inside the plot edges and make them sturdy and strong.
- 16) I will not use any pressure treated lumber in the community garden.

Growing Practices

- 17) I will nourish the soil and care for my plants using only organic gardening methods, including:
 - a) Improving the soil with cover crops, organic fertilizers and organic pesticides and other organic techniques.

- b) Not using synthetic pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer or any other synthetic material in the community garden. Examples of the **do not use** list: Miracle gro or other synthetic fertilizers, Roundup or other synthetic herbicides, D-con, Raid, or other synthetic insecticides.
 - c) Using only acceptable mulches including straw, black plastic or weed barrier mats, newspaper (not glossy) covered with an organic mulch.
 - d) It is fine to use commercial and homegrown seeds and seedlings.
 - e) Employing responsible, sustainable watering of my plot according to GGM contract guidelines. Check out this link for more information about watering from MSU extension http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/smart_watering_in_the_vegetable_garden
- 18) I am responsible for the care of my plot. I will begin my garden by June 15 and tend my plot at least once weekly throughout the growing season, approximately May 1 to October 31. There will be no refunds after June 15.
- 19) I will clean my plot by October 31, the end of the growing season. It is recommended you remove all garden art, ornamentation, tools, and water barrels at this time as the lock will be taken off the gate at the end of the season. If garden is not cleaned at the end of season I will forfeit my deposit and will be added to the bottom of the wait list for the next year of gardening.

We are guests on this property. Please be a good tenant and neighbor. Feedback is always welcome.

I have read and agree to the community garden rules and regulations. I understand that failure to meet the guidelines will result in loss of plot fee and gardening privileges. I understand that neither the Growing Greens Milford group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I agree to hold harmless the Growing Greens Milford group and owner of the land for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the Growing Greens Milford garden by me or my guest.

Printed Name	Signature	Date
Address		
Email	Cell phone	Home Phone

Submit this contract at the spring meeting with payment by cash or check payable to "Growing Greens Milford."
Mailing address: Growing Greens Milford
P.O. Box 162
New Hudson, MI 48165

We also encourage you to join our Facebook Group. Search for "Growing Greens Milford"
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