



## Growing Greens Milford Community Garden 2018 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 secure their plot with a **signed contract and payment due at the Annual Spring Garden Meeting or by mailing check to PO Box 162, New Hudson, MI 48165**. All payment is required before beginning to garden! There will be no refunds after June 15.

### Garden Upkeep – responsibilities of all gardeners

- 4) I am responsible for keeping my plot **and surrounding paths** 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 – Sign up for two weeks** during the growing season to fill water barrels. If I have two water barrels I will sign up for one additional week (total = 3 weeks). If I cannot make one of my scheduled times, it is my responsibility to find someone to replace me. **During my scheduled water barrel filling, my team is expected to water the Volunteer Garden.** Typically, barrels are filled two times each week. **By fulfilling my 2 weeks (or 3 weeks if I have an additional water barrel) of water duty, I am guaranteed water in my barrel all season.** Training on how to set up/use the pump will happen during the Spring workdays. A link to sign up will be emailed to all gardeners through SignUpGenius®.
  - b) **Workdays – Work 1 Spring AND 1 Fall** workday. (see calendar for dates) *(NOTE: working 2 Spring workdays does not release your obligation to work 1 Fall workday or vice versa – we need help both ends of the season)*
  - c) **Weeding** – Maintain weed free pathways around my garden
  - d) **Harvest** – Harvest and/or donate vegetables as they ripen. It is a core goal of the GGM Community Garden to not waste food.
- 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. Members are responsible for the activities and behavior of guests, visitors, and children.
- 10) I am committed to maintaining the garden as a safe, secure and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully.
- 11) **Live Traps** – If I choose to use a live trap to capture a woodchuck or other pesky critter I understand that I am solely responsible for its set up and removal. I will write my name and phone number on the kiosk with the location of the trap. If I trap I release. See Michigan Trappers & Predator Callers Regulations <http://www.mtpca.com/regulations.html> and Michigan Trapper Education from Michigan Department of Natural Resources [http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10363\\_10880-174841--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10363_10880-174841--,00.html).

### Garden Plot Design and Use

- 12) I will practice organic growing methods.
- 13) I will keep my plot and its borders free of weeds and diseased plants.
- 14) I will maintain three foot walkways around the perimeter of my garden, except where bordered by the fence.
- 15) I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot (specifically not growing into the walkways).
- 16) I will plant taller plants in the middle of my plot, where they will not cast shade on neighboring gardeners' plots.

- 17) I will place any temporary structures (trellises, hoops & supports) at least one foot inside the plot edges and make them sturdy and strong.
- 18) I will not use any pressure treated lumber in the community garden.

**Growing Practices**

- 19) 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) I will water using responsible and sustainable methods. Check out this link for more information about watering from MSU extension [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/smart\\_watering\\_in\\_the\\_vegetable\\_garden](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/smart_watering_in_the_vegetable_garden)
- 20) 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.**
- 21) I will **clean my plot by November 15**. The lock on the gate will be removed on October 31. I will **remove all garden art, ornamentation, tools, and water barrels**. 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.

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 deposit 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 Community Garden by me or my guest.

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Printed Name	Signature	Date
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Address

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Email	Cell phone	Home Phone
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**Submit this contract at the Annual Spring Garden 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**