

Maplewood COMMUNITY Garden

2013 Contract Agreement

The Maplewood COMMUNITY Garden (MCG) is a group of residents who choose to garden together, spread the word about eating foods that are nutritious, and enjoy the time they share gardening.

Its members are concerned about those who are struggling on a daily basis to keep food on the table or otherwise unable to eat in a healthy way. All members are committed to helping those who are in need. Working together, we can help do this – we can make it a reality, reaching in and reaching out and encircling those with inclusiveness and support that is affirmative.

Township Ordinance

An ordinance in 2010 established the garden and gave residents the right to use public land to garden vegetables, flowers, and herbs. Members are required to follow the established Rules and Regulations as set by the Maplewood Community Garden and to make payment of \$60 to the MCG prior to the start of the season. Each member will sign a waiver with the Township and a contract with the MCG.

Rules and Regulations

Planting season and hours

- a. The garden season will be from March 21-November 1
- b. Hours will be from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- c. Members will be required to participate in two workdays, one at the beginning and one at the end of the season.

Garden Plots

- a. Plots must be planted within two weeks of the workdays and maintained free of disease, insects, pests, rotting vegetables, and dead plants. (DISEASE WILL BE TREATED BY/or in consult with the Site Manager).
- b. Site Managers will notify offending members who will have four days to correct the situation. A second notification and noncompliance will result in loss of the plot for the season and use for the community needs.
- c. Members will be assigned a maintenance week to:
 1. mow and weed common areas
 2. care for vacationers plots (**GREEN** ribbons) and care for community plots
 3. notify the Site Manager of any issues they notice
- d. Members will notify the Site Managers of absence for more than four days.
No member may absent their plot for more than fourteen consecutive days or a total of twenty-one days, or plot will be forfeited.

Garden Conduct

- a. Children are welcome and encouraged to work in the garden with supervision.
- b. No smoking or animals are allowed in the garden at any time.

FOOD PANTRY

- a. MCG is designed by its Mission and 501c3 status to serve the lower income and seniors of our community. Members will be expected to donate from their plots for this purpose. Vegetables not harvested on a designated day by the plot owner will be collected and distributed by the Food Pantry Committee to the designated recipients, agency, or party.
- b. Members can notify the Food Pantry Committee leaders of their wish to not participate in the collection by posting a **RED** ribbon on their plot. In no instance can this be used more than three times in a season.

Plants and Tools

- a. MCG is an organic garden. The use of inorganic soils, treated fertilizers, inorganic pesticides, and inorganic mulch may not be used.
- b. NO sunflowers, invasive species, or corn may be planted in plots.
- c. Each site will agree on a communal area for the above plants.
- d. When watering, use the hose as close to the ground as possible. Water deep and long a few times, rather than on the surface lightly. SHUT WATER OFF WHEN FINISHED!!!
- e. Any additives to the soil should be checked with the Site Manager.
- f. PLEASE keep gates shut at all times.

All Members will attend a meeting at the beginning of the planting season. Failure to do so will forfeit your plot and your fee for the season.

Any problematic issues that appear should be reported to the Site Manager and then to the MCG President for remediation.

YOUR SIGNATURE DENOTES APPROVAL OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THIS CONTRACT.

Signature _____ Date of Agreement _____

Member's Name _____

Member's Address _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

Email Address _____
(please print clearly)