

2024 FLUVANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN

REGISTRATION FORM

- Complete this registration form to reserve your Community Garden Plot
- Cost of a plot per calendar year is \$45.00 before February 16th, 2024; \$50 after February 17th; \$20 after August 31
- Make check payable to “FCPR”
- Send check and completed application to: FCPR, P.O. Box 70, Palmyra, VA 22963
- Plot assignments will be made by Virginia Cooperative Extension/Fluvanna

NAME(S) OF GARDENER	ADDRESS	E-MAIL	TELEPHONE
1			
2			

Number of plots you are applying for _____ or renewing (Plot I.D.) _____. Two or more plots will be granted only if available.

If you wish to have a plot in close proximity to a friend, please indicate their name _____.

How many years have you been gardening? _____ Do you have experience gardening in VA? _____

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact VCE Fluvanna at 434-591-1950 to discuss accommodations.

Do you have an interest in attending educational programs such as?

- Managing garden pests _____
- Enriching your garden soil _____
- Growing vegetables _____
- Other _____



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Virginia Cooperative
Extension/Fluvanna

5725 James Madison
Hwy
Fork Union, VA 23055
434-591-1950

bredman@vt.edu

2024 FLUVANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN MEMBER AGREEMENT

The Fluvanna Community Garden will provide the following:

- ✓ A garden plot to grow produce, herbs and/or flowers for harvest by plot holders
- ✓ Access to water for irrigation
- ✓ Access to some garden tools such as wheelbarrows
- ✓ Locks and security lighting at the garden
- ✓ Educational programs and gardening tips to assist gardeners
- ✓ Social events to celebrate a community of gardeners
- ✓ Wireless Weather Station for Pleasant Grove Park
- ✓ Open year-round, sunrise to sunset, seven days per week except occasional closings authorized by Fluvanna County

If accepted as a community gardener, I will abide by the following Rules, Terms, and Conditions:

Education

New gardeners are required to attend a garden orientation. Additional educational opportunities will be provided throughout the season.

Plot Management

Gardeners are required to keep their plots neat and productive through the consistent removal of weeds, appropriate placement/training/thinning of plants, and timely harvest of produce.

- Weeds must be removed from assigned plots, plot edges, and adjacent pathways. Plots with 20% or more area covered with weeds, weeds 6" or higher, or weeds going to seed are in violation.
- Trash and litter must be cleaned from plots and adjacent pathways and disposed of outside the garden.
- Crops may not be planted or allowed to grow where they will encroach on neighboring plots.
- Tall plants (e.g., corn, sunflowers, okra) and rain barrels must be placed where they will not shade neighboring plots. Row crop shade covers must be low to the ground.
- Gardeners are responsible for their own irrigation. The use of mulch is encouraged to conserve water and reduce weeds.
- Crops must be harvested as they ripen and not allowed to rot on the vines.
- Gardeners who will be away should make arrangements with neighboring gardeners to tend to their plots.
- Gardeners who are unable to maintain their plots must notify the Steering Committee flucocommunitygarden@gmail.com, and/or VCE-Fluvanna, bredman@vt.edu 434-591-1950.

Gardeners whose plots are found to be in violation will be notified by VCE- Fluvanna to clean up their plots.

Garden Health and Security

- Entrance gates must be closed at all times, and gates must be locked when leaving the garden.
- To prevent the spread of disease, gardeners must use the disinfection mats upon entering and leaving the garden.
- Tools and tiller blades must be cleaned in the disinfecting buckets provided after each use.

- Gardeners may not enter another member's plot or pick their produce without permission.

Weed/Plant Disposal

Weeds and plant debris are to be placed in the pile along the wooded area south of the garden. If there is any sign of disease or insect infestation, these materials must be bagged and disposed of outside the garden. No plant waste or heavy items are to be placed in the county trash container(s) located outside the garden.

Irrigation

The water provided at the garden is non-potable. **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER.** It is recommended that gardeners use drip irrigation and avoid overhead spraying. All produce should be washed with potable water prior to consumption.

Insect Control

Preferred control methods are: hand picking of insect pests, crop rotation, and introduction of predator species, companion planting, soil solarization, and biological controls. If you use insecticides, be careful not to affect neighboring plots. You may also take a sample of the insect to the Master Gardener Help Desk or the Fluvanna County Extension Office for control suggestions.

Herbicides

Herbicides (weed-killing chemicals or substances) may not be used in plots, walkways, fence and non-garden areas, unless approved by the VCE-Fluvanna Office/Community Garden Steering Committee. Hoeing, mulching, and hand weeding are recommended. It is the gardener's responsibility to keep a weed-free garden.

Wildlife

Fluvanna Community Garden cannot prevent damage from wildlife. It is each gardener's responsibility to protect his/her own plot(s) as needed, provided there is no negative impact on surrounding plots and no unlawful destruction of protected wildlife.

Plants Restrictions

- The following plants are not permitted in the garden: Invasive plants, trees, shrubs, cacti, illegal or poisonous plants, Castor beans, Ricinus sp., Cannabis sp., currants, gooseberries (*Ribes* sp.), Shiso/Perilla (*Perilla frutescens*)
- The following plants must be planted in containers: Mint, fennel, raspberries, blackberries, catnip, Jerusalem artichoke, comfrey
- Perennials other than blueberry, strawberry, asparagus, rhubarb, and assorted herbs and flowers are not permitted.

Tomatoes

There are many challenges to growing tomatoes. There is a history of bacterial wilt in the garden. This is a disease that affects tomatoes and other plants in the nightshade family. Unfortunately there are no chemical controls for treating it, and it can linger in the soil for many years. For this reason, it is highly recommended that if you plant tomatoes you choose disease-resistant varieties and plant them in pots or other containers

Children/Pets

- Pets are not allowed in the garden.
- Children visiting the garden must be under supervision at all times.

Volunteering

Gardeners must participate for a minimum of four hours of Community Garden service to qualify for renewal for the following year. The Steering Committee will announce volunteer opportunities throughout the gardening year.

Fall Cleanup

- Pull up your summer and/or cool season crops unless you're continuing to garden through the winter. FYI, the water will be turned off pending the first freeze.

- If they're disease free, throw them in the weed pile (south side of the garden). If any are diseased, put them in a trash bag and dispose of them outside the garden.
- Remove any stakes, plant supports, ties, markers, etc. and either take them home or put them in the trash unless you're renewing your plot.
- Before the ground gets too hard, pull up any weeds and debris to eliminate any overwintering sites for insects and disease. Once the plot is cleared, we recommend you cover your plot with mulch, leaves or straw or plant a cover crop.

If my plot becomes unkempt or I fail to follow the good neighbor practices outlined herein, I understand I may lose my plot. **The Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) - Fluvanna Unit and the Community Garden Steering Committee reserve the right to take whatever steps necessary to remediate insect, pest, or disease infestation.**

Applicant/Gardener Signature

Date

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ABOUT THE GARDEN

History

The Fluvanna County Community Garden was developed in 2007 jointly by Virginia Cooperative Extension, Fluvanna Master Gardeners and Fluvanna County Parks and Recreation. The garden sits on land which was part of the Pleasant Grove plantation owned by William Douglas Haden in the mid-1800's. Wheat, Indian corn, oats and tobacco were the crops grown at the time.

Plots

The Community Garden consists of 97 plots, each approximately 10' x 15'. We also have one raised bed to accommodate a wheelchair or other physical limitations. Please contact Brittney Redman, VCE - Fluvanna (434-591-1950) to reserve the raised bed.

Fencing

There is perimeter fencing to help keep deer, rabbits and other critters out of the garden. There are 4 entrance gates into the garden. It is important to keep the gates closed at all times. If you notice a hole in the fence or signs that an animal has dug underneath the fence, call the VCE office right away. You can mark or block the opening until permanent repairs can be made.

For security reasons, we have installed combination locks on the gates. All gates should be locked when the last person leaves the garden. Always check to ensure there is no one else in the garden when you lock the gates.

Communications

There is a kiosk located in the garden with the latest announcements, helpful gardening information, and points of contact if you have a suggestion or concern about the garden. We have placed an emergency kit near the picnic table that contains a flashlight, magnifying glass, first aid, etc. for your use. The Steering Committee will also send you periodic emails about workdays, issues in the garden, and gardening tips. Finally, there is a Fluvanna Community Garden Facebook page for you to join.

Tools/Water

Water spigots are available at the garden for your use. Water in the garden is non-potable. We encourage you to use soaker hoses or drip irrigation on your garden. There are also wheelbarrows for your use; please return them to the designated area when you are done with them. Keep personal tools out of the walkways.

Weeds

The biggest challenge in the garden is always weeds. We need everyone's help to remove the invasive warm season grasses like crabgrass and wire grass. Please keep the paths around your plot weed-free. If you use fertilizers and pesticides, be careful not to affect any neighboring plots.

Compost/Mulch

There are composted leaves available. They are in the tree line at the west end of the garden. If you would like to test your soil to determine if amendments should be added, soil test kits are available at the VCE - Fluvanna Unit Office. Remember, it takes time to improve the soil.

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WAIVER, RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

Fluvanna County Assumption of Risk & Release

I understand the nature of the activity in which I am (my child is) being enrolled. I understand that there are certain risks inherent with participating in recreational activity and that it is the duty of each participant to exercise reasonable care for their own safety and that of other participants. If this consent is given for my child, I also understand that, while participating in the activity, my child will be expected to behave in a reasonable and responsible manner and that the activity's supervisory staff has the authority to discipline my child in a manner similar to that imposed in Fluvanna County's public schools. I understand that under Virginia law, both Fluvanna County and its employees are immune from liability for negligence should I (my child) suffer any injury while participating in the activity and that I may consider procuring insurance to protect myself (my child) from such occurrences. With all this in mind, I hereby give my consent to enroll myself (my child) in the activity indicated. I also agree for my child to be transported by Parks and Recreation to the appropriate facility for my child to participate in such if needed.

Applicant/Gardener Signature

Date

Plot number(s)

Refund Policy: Refunds may be given when requested provided the request is made prior to the start of the activity. A \$10 service charge will deducted from the refund unless the cause is due to a change in the class schedule. If supplies were purchased on your behalf, that amount may also be deducted from your refund. Allow up to 60 days for your refund to be mailed. A \$20 service charge will be assessed for any returned checks.

Office Use Only: Rec'd Date _____ By _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ CC _____

