

GREENE ACRES COMMUNITY GARDEN, INC.

The Organic Community Garden in Broadview Heights, Ohio

Established in 2013

www.greeneacres.org

2024 Renewal or Registration, Waiver and Rules Package

WHETHER YOU ARE AN EXISTING PLOT HOLDER OR NEW TO THE COMMUNITY GARDEN, IN ORDER FOR YOU TO START GARDENING IN 2024, YOU MUST DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. COMPLETE, SIGN AND RETURN THE PLOT HOLDER REGISTRATION FORM. (ATTACHED, PAGE 1). DESCRIPTIONS OF THE WORK GROUP RESPONSIBILITIES ARE INCLUDED ON PAGE 3. PLOTS WILL NOT BE HELD BEYOND 2/29/24
2. READ, SIGN AND RETURN THE WAIVER RELEASE FORM. (ATTACHED, PAGE 2)
3. SUBMIT YOUR PLOT HOLDER FEE ALONG WITH ANY DONATION YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE TO THE GARDEN.
4. BE WILLING TO ABIDE BY THE ATTACHED GARDEN RULES (ATTACHED PAGES 4-7). (READ THEM CAREFULLY AND KEEP YOUR COPY!)

RETURN YOUR SIGNED FORMS AND FEE, PAYABLE TO GREENE ACRES COMMUNITY GARDEN, INC. (OR GACG, INC.) TO:

NOREEN BUTANO

1325 BUCKBOARD LANE

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS, OHIO 44147

PLEASE MAIL ON TIME!

NOTE: YOU MAY ALSO RENEW YOUR PLOT AT THE GREENE ACRES QUARTERLY MEETING ON JANUARY 27, 2024.

2024 Plot Holder Registration/Renewal Form

Garden Plots are \$30 (\$20 for a second plot, if available)

Renewals Are Due by **February 29, 2024**

Plots are subject to forfeit after that date

Check Here **Renewing-** Plot Number(s) _____ or **New Registration**

I am a (check which is applicable):

- Broadview Heights Resident Chippewa Garden Club Member
 Owner/Employee of Broadview Heights Business. Business Name: _____

Name (print) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____

E-mail Address (REQUIRED) _____

Each Plot Holder is required, as part of their membership, to participate in at least ONE Work Group. Indicate below which Work Group you would prefer. Plot holders will be notified of Work Group assignments at the beginning of the growing season. See descriptions of Work Groups on Page 3.

- Monitoring/Security Work Group Education Work Group
 Communications Work Group Garden Harvest Work Group
 Funding/Resources Work Group Construction/Facilities Work Group

I would like to make a donation to the Garden in the amount of \$ _____ in addition to my plot fee. GACG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

I have read and retained a copy of the Greene Acres Community Garden Plot Holder Rules and understand that failure to meet these rules will result in loss of fees and gardening privileges. I hereby give Greene Acres permission to use my photograph in marketing and/or publicity for the Garden.

Signature _____ Date _____

INFORMATION FOR GREENE ACRES COMMUNITY GARDEN USE:

Plot(s) assigned: _____ Amount Received _____ Date _____

Cash () Check # _____ Stand Up Plot Needed? _____

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2024 Waiver Release of All Claims Form

The undersigned, a Plot Holder in the Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc. (the “Corporation”) garden located at 3800 Towpath Trail, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147 (the “Garden”), in consideration of being granted a plot at the Garden acknowledges and agrees as follows:

1. I am aware of the risks and hazards that may arise while participating in the Greene Acres Community Garden. To the extent that I bring or allow any family members or other guests (each a “Guest”), I agree that I am responsible for making those Guests aware of the risks and hazards that may arise in their presence at the Garden, and that I am responsible for ensuring that those Guests comply with the Garden’s Rules and any instructions given to them by Garden personnel. I hereby release and discharge the Corporation and its members, directors, officers, agents, employees, servants, insurers, or lessors, or their successors or assigns, from any and all liability, claims, demands or causes of action that I may hereafter have for any and all injuries and damages arising out of my gardening activities or my, or my Guests, presence at the Garden, whether or not such injury results from the negligence of the Corporation or its members, directors, officers, agents, employees, servants, insurers, or lessors, or their successors or assigns.
2. I agree that I will not sue or make any claim against the Corporation or its members, directors, officers, agents, employees, servants, insurers, or lessors, or their successors or assigns, for damages or losses sustained by me or any other person as a result of my gardening activities or my presence at the Garden. I further agree to indemnify and hold the Corporation and its members, directors, officers, agents, employees, servants, insurers, or lessors, or their successors or assigns, harmless from all claims, judgments and costs, including attorneys’ fees, incurred in connection with any claim or action brought by me or any of my Guests against any person as a result of my, or my Guests, gardening activities or my, or my guests, presence at the Garden, or that of any of my Guests.
3. If I have any questions about the nature, risks or hazards of the Garden or the Corporation, I will contact the Greene Acres Garden Coordinator and discuss those questions with her or him to my satisfaction.

I represent and certify that my true age is 18 years old or older. I have read this entire release, have had the time and opportunity to consult with counsel if I so choose. I fully understand it, and I agree to be legally bound by it. I cannot assign or delegate this release or any of my rights or obligations herein, and any attempt to do so is void. This release binds and benefits me and my estate.

Plot Holder Name (print) _____

Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc.

Plot Holder Signature _____

/ Tracy Mickey
Secretary

Date _____

GREENE ACRES WORK GROUPS

Before you sign up for a work group, please review the member responsibilities. Greene Acres Garden is only as good as the people volunteering.

Monitoring/Security Work Group

Make sure all garden plots are being used and maintained.

- In previous years, there have been plots that were never planted, overgrown with weeds or neglected with rotting produce. Sometimes a plot owner finds that their life/work schedule does not allow them to care for a plot(s).
- The members notify the chairperson who follows up with the President.
- After three reminders to rectify the issue and no action, the plot may be returned to the garden and reassigned.

Water plots that have "Please water" signs.

Monitor for theft, vandalism and wildlife issues

Time commitment-Weekly

Communications Work Group

Ensures that plot holders are notified of meetings and garden activities.

Publicize activities in local media.

Maintain web site and on-line presence.

Time commitment-Varies

Funding/Resources Work Group

Secures funding and develops resources to meet the garden's missions.

Time commitment-Varies

Education Work Group

Coordinates educational programs with the master gardener.

Supports the pollinator program.

Time commitment-Varies

Garden Harvest Work Group

Coordinates planting and donations of vegetables/herbs to local food pantries.

- Gathers produce from Garden Harvest plots and pots.
- Weighs and logs produce gathered and donated by plot owners
- Delivers donations to local food pantries (Generally the donations are taken to Broadview Heights Food Pantry at the Broadview Heights Recreation Center.)

Time commitment-1-2 hours weekly to bi-weekly. Week days between the hours of 8:30am to 4 pm.

Construction/Facilities Work Group

Plans and oversees construction and maintenance of the garden facilities including the shed, compost bins, plot maintenance, new plots, and minor repairs at the garden.

Organizes work days for the garden.

Time Commitment-Minimum of monthly

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PLOT HOLDER RULES (Approved January 6, 2024)

1. Garden hours are sunup to sunset seven days a week. Please keep all gates closed at all times for safety. If you are the last person out, please **LOCK THE SHED DOOR AND GATE(s)** upon leaving.

Please double check that the lock is secure, the numbers on the lock have been rolled, and you did not lock anyone “in” the garden when you leave.

PLOT PREPARATION

2. After the quarterly board meeting each January, all paid-up Plot Holders can start tending to their plots as weather permits. Remember that you need to weed, amend your soil and keep your plot looking clean until you plant. The combination to the gate lock will be changed at the beginning of each year and emailed to all Plot Holders.

PLOT HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

3. Each Plot Holder must have completed, signed and returned his/her Plot Holder Registration Form and Waiver Release form. By signing the Registration Form he/she has read and agreed to follow these rules, before he/she may enter the garden or begin work. Garden plots are not transferable.
4. Each Plot Holder is required to volunteer their time with at least one Work Group. Work Group leaders will keep the Board of Directors informed of their meetings, attendance and progress toward their goals. Assigning gardeners a second plot in the Garden will be based on volunteer activity.
5. To maintain the peace and tranquility of the Garden, gardeners are expected to treat one another with courtesy and respect. Stealing, foul language, offensive behavior, smoking, alcohol, and loud music are prohibited.
6. Children are welcome in the Garden but must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times. Pets are not allowed in the garden for sanitary reasons.
7. Plot Holders are responsible for ensuring their plots are maintained during vacation, illness or any other absences longer than one week. If possible, please advise the Garden Coordinator if you will be gone longer than one week. You also may ask a fellow gardener to water or harvest for you while you are gone.
8. Greene Acres is an organic garden. Applications of nonorganic fertilizers, insecticides or herbicides to the garden plot are prohibited. A list of acceptable and unacceptable items is included on the last page of these rules.

9. There are four water sources in the garden for your use, including a rain barrel. If you replace the nozzle to the hose provided with one you brought in, re-attach the Garden's nozzle back to the hose for the next person. The rain barrel does not contain potable water and should not be used for drinking or hand washing. Plot Holders are encouraged to mulch their plots to conserve water.
10. The Garden maintains an inventory of hand tools, a rototiller, wheelbarrows, and carts for Plot Holders' use. Access is first come/first served. All items used should be cleaned and returned to the shed. Unauthorized removal of Garden assets and/or produce is prohibited. Greene Acres is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items brought into the garden.
11. **PLEASE** take your own garbage and recycling home for disposal.

PLOT PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

12. Each Plot Holder is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their plot. **This includes watering, weeding, harvesting and pulling weeds in pathways around your plot.**

Plot holders can arrange with other plot holders to water their plots in their absence. Before leaving for vacation you can notify the Garden Coordinator and let him/her know of your absence.

Plot upkeep starts in April, weather permitting, even if you are not ready to plant. Garden plots must **always** be weeded. Gardening items should not block the pathways.

Plots will be considered abandoned if they are not planted by June 15. Abandoned plots will revert back to Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc. for re-assignment.

13. Nothing can be planted or placed in such a way as to shade or encroach another plot. Plants (e.g., corn or sunflowers), trellises, hoops, fences, or supports of any kind can be no taller than 5 feet and must never block sun from your neighbor's plot. Illegal or invasive plants are prohibited. *Cannabis* is now legal to plant at your residence, but **not** in your community garden plot.
14. Plots and the surrounding walkways **must** be weeded, and plots **must** be harvested regularly. The condition of the Garden and each plot is monitored continually by the members of the Monitor and Security Work Group. If a plot appears to be neglected, a series of warnings will be issued. Failure to address warnings within two weeks will result in the forfeiture of your plot and denial of gardening privileges in future seasons. Forfeited plots will revert back to Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc. **Please consider donating your produce when possible. See Rule 16.**

WARNING SYSTEM OF MONITORING AND SECURITY WORK GROUP

1st Warning – A call or e-mail will be sent to let Plot Holder know what needs to be done. Plot Holder must respond in five days.

2nd Warning – Second call or e-mail will be sent. Plot Holder must respond immediately.

3rd Warning – A phone call AND letter will be sent to notify Plot Holder that the plot and payment are being forfeited back to Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc.

GARDEN HARVEST WORK GROUP PROCEDURES

If it is observed that your plot has excess produce that is wasting, rotting or not being tended, a reminder call or e-mail will be sent to let Plot Holder know that harvesting needs to take place. If harvesting does

not take place after 48 hours of such notice, then the Garden Harvest Work Group may enter the plot and harvest and donate such produce.

COMPOSTING BINS

15. The compost bins are used to compost new plant material only. Fruits, vegetables, cut flowers, dry leaves, stems, etc. should be put in the bin designated by the sign "NEW CLIPPINGS." Do not place anything in the "COMPOSTING" bin or "READY TO USE" bin, but feel free to use the material from the "READY TO USE" bin.

Weeds (dried only) may be placed on the ground to the left of the first bin.

NOTE: check the signs, which will move when a bin's contents have matured.

Avoid putting fruits with seeds (e.g., overripe tomatoes) in the compost bin. Tomato fruits spread soil fungal diseases.

DO NOT BRING ITEMS FROM HOME TO PUT IN THE COMPOST BINS.

HARVESTING AND DONATIONS

16. Gardeners are encouraged to donate surplus produce—free of disease and spoilage and with soil removed—by placing it in baskets inside the shed or in any other designated location. Produce from any abandoned plots will also be donated. Selling of produce or plants within the garden is not permitted.

END OF SEASON

17. All beds must be cleaned of weeds and above-ground plant material at the end of each season but no later than December 1st. A planted cover crop and perennials may be left for the winter. Chairs, tomato cages, stakes, and trellises must be taken home for the winter.

If a garden plot is not cleaned by December 1, the Plot Holder may lose his/her opportunity to renew the plot for the next season. The Plot Holder will be notified by email if the plot has been forfeited.

18. The Monitoring and Security Work Group will monitor adherence to these Rules. The Garden Coordinator will resolve any dispute and will interpret and apply these Rules, and his/her determination is final. Any further dispute may be arbitrated by the Plot Holder before the Greene Acres Board of Directors, whose decision is final and binding.
19. These Rules may be amended at any time by a majority of the Board of Directors of Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc. All amendments will apply to the Garden and all Plot Holders immediately upon adoption. Once amended, newly updated rules will be emailed to all Plot Holders, put on the web site (www.greeneacres.org) and a copy hung in the bulletin board inside the Garden near the gate.

Acceptable / Unacceptable Products

Our goal is to maintain the organic integrity of the Greene Acres Community Garden, Inc. by using products derived from animals, plants or natural rock. The acceptable products listed below are considered suitable by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) for use in certified organic production. If you want to use a product not listed below, please contact the Garden Coordinator. If the product is listed with OMRI it will be considered acceptable for use in the community garden.

Acceptable	Unacceptable
Rock powders (lime, greensand, rock phosphate, etc.)	Synthetic fertilizers (e.g., 5-10-10, etc.)
Neem	Rotenone
Bt	Sevin
Compost M	Diazinon
Compost (noncarnivorous)	Malathion
Insecticidal soaps	Methoxychlor
Seaweed/fish preparations	Sabadilla
Garlic/hot pepper/kitchen mixes	Miracle Gro
Pro-Gro	Miracid
Diatomaceous earth	Peters Plant Food
Sulfur	
Wood ash	
Miracle-Gro Organic Choice	