

2017 FLUVANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN

REGISTRATION FORM

- Please fill out the registration form to reserve your Community Garden Plot for 2017.
- Cost of one plot is \$45.00 before February 15th, \$50 after February 15th
- Make check payable to "FCPR"
- Send check and completed application to: FCPR, P.O. Box 70, Palmyra, VA 22963
- Attend one of two mandatory meetings (February 13th or 15th) to receive your plot assignment(s) and details on your responsibilities in the Community Garden.

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

Number of plots you are applying for _____. 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. The Community Garden has a wheelchair/handicapped accessible bed.

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

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Fork Union, VA 23055
434-591-1950

jthomp7@vt.edu

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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
- Plenty of new friends

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

Plot management

- If my plot becomes unkempt, the Fluvanna County Extension Service, after consultation with the Community Garden Steering Committee, shall notify the Applicant/Gardener if it determines any of the below responsibilities and good neighbor practices have not been followed. If they have not been followed, the Fluvanna Extension Service may take control of the Gardener's plot(s). The Fluvanna County Extension Service also reserves the right, after consultation with the Community Garden Steering Committee, to take whatever steps necessary to remediate insect, pests, or disease infestation.
- If I must abandon or am temporarily unable to work my plot for any reason, I will notify the Steering Committee, and/or VCE-Fluvanna Office.
- I am responsible for my own irrigation. Drip lines and soaker hoses are encouraged as well as mulch of some type to further conserve water and reduce weeds.
- I will maintain the common areas and remove weeds surrounding my plot(s).
- I will keep trash and litter cleaned from the plot, and from adjacent pathways and fences.
- I will plant crops ONLY where they will not shade or encroach on neighboring plots (Corn, sunflowers, etc.)
- I will not plant my plants on or right against the edge of the neighboring plot.
- My rain barrel will be in the middle of my plot.
- I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
- I will not enter another member's plot without their permission.

Weed Policy

Gardeners are expected to keep their plots neat and productive through the consistent removal of weeds in:

- Plot boundaries between neighbors,
- Adjacent pathways bordering plots (which includes 1/2 of the pathway between plots), plot edges and along fencing.

Gardeners whose plots are found to have one or more of the criteria below will be notified by email to clean up their plots:

1. 20% or more of plot is weeds or
2. Weeds are 6" (inches) or higher or
3. Weeds are going to seed

A garden walk-through is done weekly.

Notification levels:

FIRST NOTICE: If your plot(s) reflect any of the criteria above, you will receive your first notice to visit your garden for maintenance.

SECOND NOTICE: If you have not followed up in a week or contacted fluvannacg100@gmail.com, you will receive a second notice from the Fluvanna Extension Agent and a sign in your plot notifying you that the garden needs to be weeded now and asking you to contact Jthomp75@vt.edu.

THIRD NOTICE: The third notice will be the final notice.

If no action has been taken, one week later, we take back the plot and the gardener will forfeit all future opportunities to hold a plot at the Fluvanna Community Garden.

As soon as the plot is 'forfeited' it is made available to the community gardeners.

1. Plot is first offered to gardeners in the plot's neighborhood, then if still available, it is offered to all the gardeners.
2. A gardener taking the plot is not charged for the plot for that year-- regardless when this happens in the gardening year.

Irrigation

- I understand the water provided at the garden is non-potable. It is recommended that gardeners do not drink the water provided and use drip irrigation. All produce should be washed with potable water prior to consumption.

Insect Control

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

Children/pets

- I will NOT bring pets into the garden.
- Children visiting the garden with me will be under my supervision at all times.

Volunteering

- I 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 by November 15th

- Pull up your summer and/or cool season crops. If they're disease free, throw them in the vegetation pile (south side of the garden). If any are diseased, please put them in a trash bag and take them home for disposal.
- Remove any stakes, plant supports, ties, markers, etc. and either take them home or put them in the trash.
- Before the ground gets too hard, please pull up any weeds and debris to eliminate any overwintering sites for insects and disease.

Applicant/Gardener Signature

Date

Plot number(s)

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ABOUT THE GARDEN

History

The Fluvanna County Community Garden was developed 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'. One plot per person is assigned until we can determine if there are extra plots available if you wish to reserve 2 plots. We also have one raised bed to accommodate a wheelchair or other physical limitations. Please contact John Thompson, Fluvanna VCE, (434-591-1950) to reserve the raised bed.

Fencing

There is perimeter fencing to keep deer, rabbits and other critters out of the garden. There are 3 entrance gates into the garden. It's 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 at the kiosk 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. Please be mindful of water usage. We encourage you to use soaker hoses or drip irrigation on your garden. There are also wheelbarrows for your use. Please ensure you return the wheelbarrows to the designated area. 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 is composted horse manure and 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 Extension Office or Southern States. 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 _____

