

Chesterfield Community Garden Site Rules

Adopted August 22, 2024 by the Chesterfield Township Committee

Mission Statement: The Community Garden provides the means for participants to grow their own fresh produce, as well as produce that can be donated to local organizations and individuals in need. The garden also offers educational opportunities for all ages to learn about gardening, sustainability and wellness.

The Chesterfield Community Garden is located at 295 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield, New Jersey 08515. Township residents interested in renting a plot must agree with and abide by all of the Community Garden Site Rules. Gardeners that do not honor these site rules will be required to relinquish their garden plot.

I. **PLOTS** (Rentals, Volunteer Service Hours, Rules, Maintenance and Forfeiture)

a. **RENTALS**

Each full-sized plot measures 10' x 15'

Each small-sized plot measures 4' x 8'

The location of each plot will be specified on the site map

Full plot: \$45.00 per year

Small plot: \$30.00 per year

The first name to appear on the Community Garden application signed at the time of rental is considered the "Primary Gardener". All gardeners on the application are collectively and severally bound by the Site Rules. Gardeners agree that the primary gardener is the designated contact for all business correspondence from the Community Garden team regarding the garden plot. Any new gardener must be added to the application before being allowed to garden the plot.

Plots will be provided on a first come, first served basis. If interest for the plots is greater than the capacity, the Community Garden Team will maintain a 'waiting list' for interested individuals/groups, who will be notified if/when a plot becomes available for rent. If an individual/group is interested in having more than one plot, additional plot requests will be added to a separate wait list that will be utilized once the single plot wait list is exhausted.

Mandatory orientation session for all gardeners with plots will be held at the beginning of the season to provide an opportunity to meet your gardening "neighbors", review the site rules, discuss approved fertilizers and pest management materials, hours of operation, volunteer service events calendar, etc.

b. **VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS**

To keep the garden area well-maintained and available for interested gardeners, the Community Garden will hold several volunteer service events during the year.

c. **RULES**

1. The Community Garden area is open from dawn to dusk, year-round.
2. No illegal plants, trees, cacti, castor beans (or other poisonous plants) may be planted.
3. Diseased and pest-ridden plants must be removed from the site to prevent spreading. Do not place in compost area.
4. Smoking and chewing tobacco are prohibited. Tobacco carries the mosaic virus which is deadly to some plants.
5. No permanent structures may be placed on the plot. Temporary structures should not shade a neighbor's plot without the approval of that neighbor. Height of the structure is limited to 6 feet.

6. Only organic nutrients and pest controls are allowed for use in the garden. When in doubt about a product or method, check for "OMRI" label.
7. The use of Sevin and Round-up products in the Community Garden is prohibited.
8. Gardeners are responsible for bringing their own tools, hoses, and other gardening materials to the site. Some "community" tools/equipment may be provided, but gardeners should not rely on their availability.
9. The use of chemically treated wood (i.e. wolmanized wood) is not allowed. These products contain arsenic, hexavalent chromium and other toxic substances, which may leach into the soil.
10. Tools should be used only for the purpose for which they were intended. "Community" tools should be returned cleaned to their proper place. Only gardeners over 16 years of age are allowed to use power tools. The operation must be under adult supervision after having instruction and guidance from an experienced adult. Appropriate safety gear such as goggles, ear protection and gloves are to be utilized.
11. Gardeners must be present on-site when watering their plots. Unattended watering is not allowed. We encourage drip and hand watering to ensure as little waste as possible.
12. No pets allowed in the garden except certified service animals.
13. Each gardener is responsible for disposal of trash. Do not place any trash in common areas or roadways. Take it home with you. Only organic, compostable material is to be placed in the composting area.
14. No alcohol or illegal substances may be consumed on the entire site.
15. No gardener may:
 - a. Use a sign or name with reference to Chesterfield Community Garden in conjunction with for-profit sale of produce or flowers in any venue.
 - b. Use the property at Chesterfield Community Garden in conjunction with for-profit sale of produce or flowers.
16. This is a community garden. Other gardeners are our neighbors. Any disagreements should be resolved using pleasant language and reasonable problem-solving approach. There should be no harassment, threats, verbal abuse or acts of violence by any person against any other person. Such acts should be reported to the Community Garden Team. If necessary, proper authorities will be called. Any person committing such acts may be asked to forfeit their gardening plot.
17. Corn should not be planted as it increases the risk of potential garden pests and casts shadows on neighboring plots.
18. At the end of the season, October 31st, gardeners are responsible for removing all personal items and preparing their plot for the winter.
19. If a gardener has been in compliance during the season, that gardener will be offered the use of the same plot the following year, pending receipt of an updated application and fees.
20. I will only pick crops from my own plot.

d. MAINTENANCE and FORFEITURE

Plot maintenance is defined as regular attention to and removal of weeds, grasses and other invasive plants and regular harvesting.

1. When a garden is out of compliance, the Community Garden Team will flag the garden and send a notice to the email address on file to bring it into compliance within 14 days. Non-compliance will result in forfeiture. No garden fees will be refunded unless a valid excuse is given.
2. A garden will be considered as abandoned based on the following:
 - a. No evidence of plot maintenance in the preceding 30 days; and
 - b. Email is not answered within a 14-day period.

The plot may then be re-rented.

Gardeners who continue to neglect their plots will not be invited back the following year.

II. COMMON AREAS

The Common Areas include the composting areas within the Community Garden space, storage areas, permanent planting areas surrounding the plots, and future proposed seating areas and ornamental garden(s). All of the gardeners have responsibility for maintaining the common areas.

III. PARKING

Park only in the Chesterfield Twp Building parking lot. Parking is not allowed along Crosswicks-Chesterfield Rd or along the driveway into the parking lot. No parking and driving on the grass. Wagons are provided for your use for hauling items to and from the garden.

IV. SAFETY AND SECURITY

- A. The property is open from dawn to dusk, year-round. Gardening activities may occur only during those times. Irrigation will generally be activated in April and deactivated at the end of October.
- B. The gate and any other garden facilities are to remain locked from dusk to dawn (i.e. lock shed, hydrants).
- C. All children under 12 must be under adult supervision at all times.
- D. BY SIGNING THE COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION, YOU, THE APPLICANT/GARDENER, AGREE TO ABIDE BY AND BE BOUND BY THE RULES ADOPTED ON AUGUST 22, 2024 BY THE CHESTERFIELD TWP COMMITTEE AND TO INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS AND DEFEND THE TOWNSHIP, ITS EMPLOYEES, ASSIGNS, LESSEES, CONTRACTORS AND AGENTS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, SUITS, ACTIONS OF WHATEVER KIND, FOR ANY PERSONAL OR OTHER TYPE OF INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, THEFT, AND/OR ANY OTHER LOSS OF ANY KIND INCLUDING ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE DEFENSE OF ANY SUCH SUIT OR ACTIONS THAT ARE BROUGHT AGAINST CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, ITS EMPLOYEES, ASSIGNS, LESSEES, CONTRACTORS AND AGENTS, RESULTING FROM OR ARISING FROM ACTIONS OR ACTIVITIES ENGAGED IN BY APPLICANT/GARDENER, RELATING TO USE OF THE COMMUNITY GARDEN AT THE CHESTERFIELD COMMUNITY GARDEN BY APPLICANT/GARDENER AND/OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND/OR ASSIGNS.

V. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Site Rules can be made subject to adoption by the Chesterfield Twp Committee.

Commitment

I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms and conditions stated above for participation in the Chesterfield Community Garden.

PRINT NAME

SIGN NAME

DATE

Chesterfield Community Garden Application

The Chesterfield Community Garden is a garden located at 295 Chesterfield-Bordentown Road, Chesterfield, NJ 08515. Chesterfield residents are able to reserve space to have a family garden where they can grow herbs, produce, and flowers. Each resident/household can reserve **one** plot to use for one season.

Applications are not considered complete unless the applicant reads and agrees to the Site Rules (attached). If you wish to reserve a plot, please fill out this Application Form below and return it along with your payment to:

**Chesterfield Township
Attn: Community Garden
295 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield, NJ 08515**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

List all other names, who will be involved in gardening your plot, on the back of this page.

_____ New gardener

_____ Returning gardener; Same plot as last year? _____ Yes _____ No

_____ 10' x 15' plot (Cost is \$45.00)

_____ 4' x 8' plot (Cost is \$30.00)

Are you interested in additional plots? Yes or No

If yes, how many? _____

All checks should be payable to Chesterfield Township

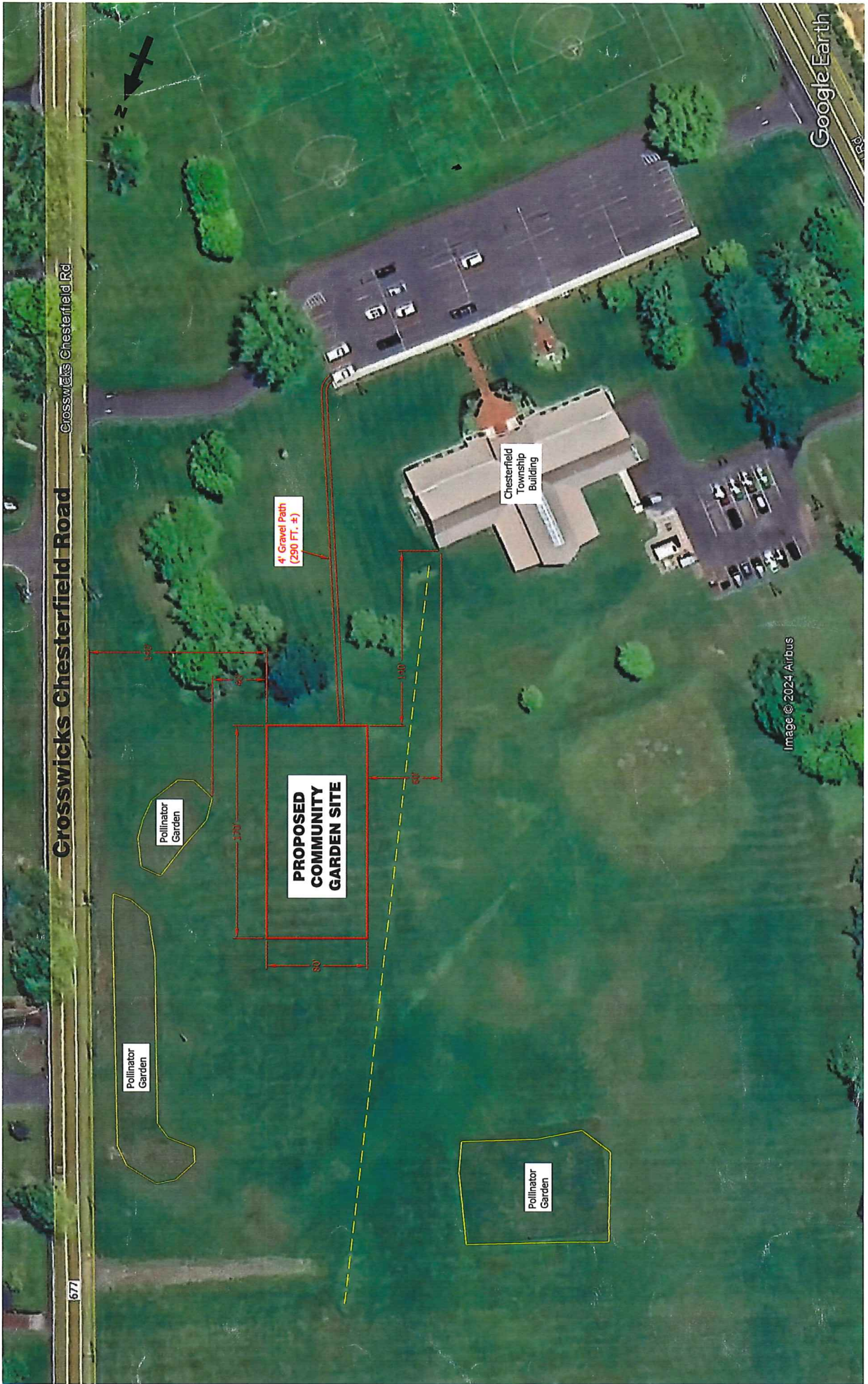
For questions, call Roseann Greenberg at 609 417-2466 or email fgfrag@aol.com.

Applications will not be considered complete unless this form and contract is signed, dated and returned. I understand that failure to abide by the Chesterfield Community Garden Contract may result in the immediate revocation of the use of the Community Garden and forfeit of any plants growing and registration fees.

Internal Use Only

Applicant has submitted application and check: _____ Yes _____ No

Applicant has signed contract: _____ Yes _____ No



Crosswicks Chesterfield Rd

677

Pollinator Garden

Pollinator Garden

PROPOSED COMMUNITY GARDEN SITE

4' Gravel Path (290 FT. ±)

Chesterfield Township Building

Pollinator Garden

Image © 2024 Airbus

Google Earth

Proposed Community Garden Site

