

Freehold Community Garden

Lloyd Street, Freehold, NJ 07728

Mission Statement: The Freehold Community Garden strives to develop a community of citizens who work together to create a successful community garden and improve their community and beyond. The garden provides the opportunity for participants to grow their own fresh produce, as well as produce that will be donated to local organizations and individuals in need. The garden also provides educational opportunities for all ages to learn about gardening, sustainability, and wellness.

2025 COMMUNITY GARDEN SEASON: MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES AND RULES:

1. **I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user. If I am suspected of theft, I will be questioned and potentially removed from the garden.**
2. My bed will be planted and kept weed free throughout the growing season. Weeding applies to the areas around my plot on all sides. All diseased or pest infested plants must be removed immediately or it will be removed by the Garden Leadership Committee.
3. I will ensure that my plot will be cared for in my temporary absence (example: vacation), or if I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Garden Committee of my arrangements. At no time should the lock combo be shared with anyone.
4. If my plot becomes unkempt, I understand I will be given 3 warnings and 1 weeks' notice to clean it up. If I fail to clean up within that time, I understand I forfeit my plot and the dues I paid will not be refunded. Forfeited or abandoned gardens will be assigned to the next person on the waiting list. Gardeners who continue to neglect their plots may not be invited back the following year.
5. I will remove **ALL** plant material including weeds, perennials as well as decorative objects or structures and bring it back to its original state at the closing of my plot.
6. Only one plot per household or address can be rented.
7. **I will participate in the following mandatory work days: the spring cleanup, the fall cleanup of the Garden, and 4 additional 2hr sessions as scheduled throughout the season. If my row has an automatic irrigation hose, I must also volunteer for weekly water turn on/off duties or the water system will be turned off in your bed.**
8. I will use only OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) approved products for pest and weed control in my plot.
9. I will turn off all water spigots including main, diverter and hose sprayers after use, and coil all hoses neatly on the post provided. I will NOT drag hoses through someone else's garden plot. I will secure the lock to the garden every time I leave.
10. I will transfer all garden waste to the designated curb area in a neat manner during designated pickup months. During non-designated months I will take all waste material home.
11. I will clean and return all community garden tools to the shed after use. I will NOT harm, interfere with or remove tools from any plot.
12. Any small children that accompany me will be supervised by an adult at all times.
13. I will NOT consume alcoholic beverages or smoke anywhere on Borough of Freehold property.
14. The following crops are not allowed and will be removed if planted: corn, sunflowers, and invasive plants such as mint. NO growing structure (trellis, cage) can be over 4 feet tall. Crops grown over 5 feet will not be allowed except asparagus or crops grown in the weed and harvest plots. No crops or structures shall shade a neighboring garden.
15. The planting of mono crops is prohibited. Crop rotation (especially tomatoes & potatoes) from year to year is vital to the health of the soil.
16. Respect for not only the garden, but also respect for each other is necessary to create an easy going & friendly atmosphere. Please maintain good relations with all other members of the garden. Ensure your plants stay within your beds and no plants encroach another bed on ground or overhead.
17. All previous applications are invalid.

Plots are assigned annually on a first come - first serve system based on previous years' participation. Freehold Borough residents will be given first preference. If no plots are available, the Garden Committee will keep a waiting list and will notify interested parties as space becomes available. Full size plots will be about 100' square. Raised plots will be about 48' square. Garden season ends October 31, 2025. Open daily from Dawn – Dusk. Communal plots are intended to be worked and shared among gardeners. PAR (Plant a Row) gardens are intended to grow produce to be harvested for donation to local food banks. Communication and updates as needed via email and/or posting on the bulletin board in the Community Garden.

Please retain this page for future reference.

FREEHOLD COMMUNITY GARDEN

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Email: FreeholdCommunityGarden@gmail.com

Instructions: Please retain page 1 "Membership responsibilities and rules."

Mail or deliver page 2 completed application form to:

Freehold Community Garden
Borough of Freehold
30 Mechanic Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

Gardeners who wish to have an individual full plot will have a non-refundable \$25 fee, half plot will have a non-refundable \$15 fee, (or a raised bed with a non-refundable \$15 fee) due with this application in the form of a check or money order (no cash) made payable to "Borough of Freehold" to recoup water and incidental costs. Original forms will be held by the Freehold Community Garden. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

2025 Application Form

Applicant (print) _____

Address _____

Phone # (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email Address _____

Experience level (circle one): Beginner Intermediate Advanced

I, _____, agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations for the Freehold Community Garden as provided, and understand that failure to do so may result in forfeiture of my plot, this permit and forfeiture of all fees. The applicant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the County of Monmouth New Jersey, their employees, officials and volunteers thereof, for, from and against, any and all claims of any type or kind against the Borough, the Committee, or any of their bodies or agencies in any way relating to the community garden, including, but not limited to any and all claims for personal injury and property damage. This indemnity includes the costs incurred in defense of any such claim, whether or not such claim results in litigation and the reimbursement or payment of any and all moneys paid or incurred to such claimant, whether as a result of a judgment or settlement of such claim.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Please check one: Legacy Gardener* _____ Boro Resident** _____ ***Nonresident _____ Volunteer _____ (no fee)

*Legacy Gardeners' applications will be accepted beginning November 1, 2024- November 30, 2024

**Boro- residents have preferential filing during December 1, 2024- February 15, 2025

***Non- residents' applications will be accepted February 16 – May 31, 2025

ALL APPLICATIONS WILL CLOSE ON MAY 31, 2025

(This portion for office uses only)

Orientation Date Attended _____ Amount Paid _____

Plot # Assigned _____ Date Paid _____

FCG Committee Member _____ Payment Type Check Money Order (Circle One)