

B O R O U G H O F
NEW PROVIDENCE

SETTLED IN 1720

2022 NP COMMUNITY GARDEN (NPCG) OPERATING RULES

1. Primary Gardeners must be at least 21 years old and household members must be at least 13 years old to work in the Garden unsupervised.
2. The Garden planting season shall be April 15 – October 31, depending upon weather and initial garden set up.
3. Garden operating hours are Monday – Sunday, dawn to dusk.
4. One plot is allowed per household unless there is excess inventory of available plots.
5. Prior to the start of the garden season, all Gardeners are required to attend the Organizational Meeting, scheduled to take place in early April. In addition, community garden work days will be scheduled for garden maintenance.
6. Gardeners are required to maintain their plot for the entire Garden Season. They may designate at the time of registration any household member who is permitted to work in the Garden Plot aged 13 and up. Plots and the area 2.5 feet beyond the plot are to be weeded on an on-going basis and planted by no later than the end of May. Failure to maintain the plot and to weed on a regular basis may result in forfeiture of the plot.
7. Each Gardener must commit to a minimum of 3 hours of volunteer time during the garden season to the maintenance and operation of the Garden's common areas, e.g., weeding the common areas, maintaining the compost, laying wood chips, etc. If a Gardener is unable to volunteer a minimum of 3 hours, an additional fee of \$50 may be assessed and they may not be assigned a Plot in future garden seasons, as determined by the Garden Committee.
8. Gardeners are responsible for weeding the paths and areas up to 2.5 feet around their Plot. All paths must be kept free of weeds and obstructions.
9. All Plots must remain free of trash and dead plants.
10. Gardeners must immediately treat plant diseases and pests. In some cases, the Garden Coordinator will provide instructions on treatment, and may require removal of plants for pest and disease control. Infected plants may not be composted and must be disposed of off-site.
11. Wood chips may not be used as mulch in the Garden Plots, using salt hay is acceptable.
12. Spent plant materials must be disposed of in the compost containers provided.
13. All non-compostable waste/trash must be disposed of offsite. There is no waste disposal service at the Garden.
14. Tires or other structures that retain standing water are prohibited.

15. Basic, temporary plant supports that are no higher than 5 feet are permitted, e.g., tomato cages and trellises. All other structures are prohibited in the Garden Plots.
16. The Garden shall operate as an organic garden. All soil, pesticides, fertilizers and mulch must be pre-approved by the NPCG Committee. The use of non-organic products is prohibited, e.g., Miracle Grow, Preen.
17. Plants that are invasive in nature are not allowed. (See NPCG Checklist of Prohibited Plants).
18. Garden Plots must be completely cleared out and raked at the end of the garden season, by a date set by the Garden Coordinator, typically October 31 (depending on weather). All plant debris, weeds, plastic plant tags, plant supports and other objects must be removed from the Plot.
19. Service animals are the only animals permitted in the Garden.
20. All children must be closely supervised and are not allowed to engage in roughhousing or other behavior that would disturb other Gardeners. Parents/guardians/adults are responsible for supervising their children and teaching them the safe use of tools, gardening methods, and garden etiquette.
21. Growing or use of illegal substances or cannabis shall result in immediate expulsion and revocation of the Garden Plot.
22. Tools and equipment of the NPCG may not be removed from the Garden area, and must be cleaned and properly stored in the Garden shed after use. No personal items may be stored in the Garden shed or in the Garden.
23. The Garden gate must remain locked. The last Gardener to leave the Garden is responsible for locking the gate.
24. Water spigots must be turned off after use.
25. Gardeners and their visitors are not permitted to enter, water, or garden another Gardener's plot, unless given explicit permission to do so.
26. A Gardener must immediately notify the Garden Coordinator in writing of the inability to maintain a Plot. No application fee will be refunded after May 1.
27. All Gardeners must maintain good conduct and civil behavior at all times. Verbally or physically abusive behavior will not be tolerated. Use of alcohol is prohibited within and surrounding the Garden.
28. The use of amplified devices and noise is prohibited.
29. Smoking is prohibited in areas within and surrounding the Garden.
30. Grievances: Gardeners should first try to resolve any grievances with fellow Gardeners. A conversation about an issue often can lead to great ideas, suggestions, and quick resolution. If a Gardener is unable to resolve a grievance with a fellow Gardener, he/she may ask the Garden Coordinator for a resolution. If the issue cannot be resolved with the assistance of the Garden Coordinator, the matter may be referred to the Garden Committee.
31. Failure to comply with the Operating Rules and other Garden regulations may result in forfeiture of the Plot, as per the recommendation of the Garden Coordinator and as determined by the Garden Committee. No fees will be returned if a Plot is forfeited.
32. Gardeners who fail to comply with the Operating Rules and other Garden regulations will not be assigned a Plot in future garden seasons, as determined by the Garden Committee.
33. Parking – Please use the NP Community Pool parking lot.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Cell #: _____

I, _____ acknowledge that I have reviewed the rules enumerated herein and agree to abide by said rules during the term of my membership in the New Providence Community Garden.

_____ Date: _____

Signature of Applicant