



**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PLAIN
TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GARDEN!**

Plain Township is happy that you have chosen to participate in our first ever community garden! Community gardens provide numerous benefits, fostering a sense of community cohesion while also promoting environmental sustainability. They offer residents access to fresh produce, opportunities for physical activity, and a platform for knowledge exchange, ultimately enriching both the local environment and social fabric.

Our garden is located at Al Leno Park, 3059 Alpine St. NE, Canton, OH 44721 right next to the south side of the playground. There are 24 raised beds which are 4'x4' in size, as well as 12 raised beds that are 4'x8' in size. The garden is an open space divided into 4 quadrants by limestone pathways. The beds are filled with healthy topsoil.

The season begins in May and extends to mid-November. The garden is accessible during park hours, which are dawn to dusk daily. Parking can be found as you enter the park from Alpine Street and is directly east of the garden. The park also features a walking track, skate park, pickleball courts, tennis courts, a basketball court, two picnic shelters, an inclusive playground, and full flush restroom facilities.

Plots can be reserved for the season by filling out the attached application, agreeing to all policies and procedures, and making payment in full via cash or check made out to Plain Township Trustees. Payment can be mailed with the application or dropped off Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm at Plain Township Hall, Attention: Parks Director, located at 2600 Easton St. NE, Canton, OH 44721.

The Garden Monitor is Kaylah Shaheen. She can be reached by phone at 330-933-6797, or by email at kaylah.shaheen@gmail.com. The Parks Director, Rob Steinberg, can also be reached by phone at 330-244-8473, or via email at rsteinberg@plaintownshipstarkoh.gov.

Either the Garden Monitor or the Parks Director will contact you with your plot assignment for the season, and with other relevant information.



**PLAIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GARDEN
GARDENER APPLICATION**

Gardener: _____

Gardening Partner (if applicable): _____

Gardener Address:

Gardener Phone: _____ **Partner Phone (if applicable):** _____

Photo permission: Occasionally photos of the garden, gardeners, partners, and/or garden leaders may be taken by the Township, or even by the media. Please check here () if you **DO NOT** give permission for your photo to be taken and published. Please also politely give photographers notification that you **DO NOT** give permission when you encounter them.

Phone and email: All gardeners are required to provide a valid phone number and email address where you may be reached by the Township and/or Garden Monitor. The phone number and email address can be shared with other gardeners. Please check here () if you **DO NOT** give permission to share your phone number or email address with other gardeners.

By signing below, you agree that you have read, understand, and will abide by all policies and procedures herein this packet. If guidelines are not met or are violated, you understand you will be contacted by phone or email and have 10 days to mitigate the violation. If after 10 days the notice of violation has not been rectified, you understand the plot may be forfeited without refund or compensation and will be resold. You understand that neither Plain Township nor the Garden Monitor are responsible for your actions. You as the gardener agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Plain Township from any claim, demand, suit, loss, cost of expense, or any damage which may be asserted, claimed, or recovered against Plain Township, by reason of any damage to property, personal injury, or bodily injury including death, sustained by any person whomsoever, and which damage or injury arises out of this activity.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

<p>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:</p> <p>Date application received: _____ Fee Paid: \$ _____ Received by: _____</p> <p>Plot assigned: Yes _____ No _____ Plot #: _____ Site: _____</p> <p>Notes: _____</p>



PLAIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GARDEN POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND FEES

The following policies, procedures, and fees have been established by Plain Township. Please read and direct questions and/or concerns to the Garden Monitor or Parks Director.

1. All gardeners are required to complete an application form with non-refundable payment in full via check or cash. Checks can be made out to Plain Township Trustees. 4'x4' plots are \$15.00 per plot. 4'x8' plots are \$25.00 per plot. Fees will be used to help with maintenance of the overall site.
2. Garden meetings and work parties are scheduled throughout the season. Please plan to attend to help with upkeep and special projects. Updates can be found on social media as well as the kiosk at the garden.
3. Plots and adjoining pathways must be attended to and maintained. If the plot is unattended for more than 10 days without notification to the Township or Garden Monitor, you will be given notice to mitigate the violation within 10 days of receipt of the notice of violation. If the violation is not rectified within the 10-day period, the plot will be forfeited without refund or compensation and can be resold.
4. Plant tall plants and vines in places where they will not interfere with other plots.
5. Pick up litter in and around the garden when you encounter it.
6. Do not pick anything from other plots without the expressed permission of the plot holder.
7. Water can be found in the restrooms or drinking fountain on site. Space is limited to fill jugs, so it is recommended gardeners also bring their own water to tend to the site. Plain Township is working to create rain barrels for water access in the future.
8. Gardeners must bring and take with them their own tools and supplies. Nothing can be left on site for the safety of all involved.
9. Pets are prohibited in the garden.
10. Children must be supervised while in the garden.
11. This is to be an organic garden. Use of chemical fertilizers such as Miracle Gro, or weed killers such as Round-Up, Weed-B-Gon, etc. are prohibited for the safety of all involved.
12. **Planting marijuana or other illegal and/or invasive plants is STRICTLY prohibited.**



PLAIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GARDEN POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND FEES

13. **Smoking and hazardous materials, including but not limited to, flammable materials and/or liquids, fireworks, pyrotechnic devices, explosives, poisonous materials or plants, strong acids, or caustics are STRICTLY prohibited.**
14. Call or text the Garden Monitor Kaylah Shaheen at 330-933-6797 if:
 - a) You need help with your garden because of a vacation or illness.
 - b) You cannot complete the season, so the plot can be reassigned and sold to someone else.
15. At the end of the gardening season, all dead plants, and materials such as string, wire, wood, metal, plastic, etc., must be removed and properly disposed of, and all plots must be left clean and tidy. If the plot is not clean by the end-of-season date, you may forfeit your right to return the following season.
16. If you plan on keeping the same plot for the following season, you may plant perennial plants, but you must notify the Garden Monitor or Parks Director and pay the seasonal fee at that time.
17. Both Plain Township and the Garden Monitor are not responsible for lost or stolen property. Report theft, vandalism, or suspicious activity to the Stark County Sheriff's Office at 330-430-3800.
18. Finally, please use common courtesy and be considerate of other plot holders and park visitors.