



## *Welcome to the Eatontown Community Garden*

Dear Gardener,

Thank you for your interest in the Eatontown Community Garden. Eatontown is excited for the 2026 gardening season to begin.

We welcome our returning gardeners and all interested new gardeners. The Eatontown Community Garden was developed by the Eatontown Green Team in partnership with the Mayor, Council, and the Borough of Eatontown. The garden is part of the many offerings presented by the Eatontown Recreation Department. The garden is located on Grant Avenue in Eatontown, across from Gerry Tarantolo Park.

Weather permitting, we anticipate the open of our garden season to be March 16th. DPW will turn on the water mid-April and turn off the water in the Fall (specific dates will be determined based on the weather and gardeners may not be given advanced notice). Gardeners will have access to the Community Garden until November.

**The 2026 Garden Rules and Responsibilities are included with this letter. It is required that all gardeners, returning and new, carefully review and familiarize themselves with the Garden Rules and Responsibilities each season. Additionally, all gardeners are required to sign-off on receipt of the Rules and Responsibilities.**

**New 2026 Gardener Applications will not be accepted until April 1, 2026.**

Registration for participation in the Community Garden will be taken online through the Recreation Department's registration software: [www.EatontownRecNJ.com](http://www.EatontownRecNJ.com). Alternatively, the application and contract are available to register in person or through the mail.

If you are unable to register online, need assistance with registering, or have questions/concerns, please reach out to the Recreation Department and the office staff will be able to assist you.

Happy Gardening, Eatontown  
Triston: (732) 389-7607  
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## 2026 GARDEN SEASON—RULES & REGULATIONS

These rules are intended to help all gardeners grow fresh, healthy plants in a thriving garden, to help create a sense of community among gardeners, and to help the Eatontown Community Garden be a good neighbor in the Borough of Eatontown. These rules are subject to change at any time as deemed necessary.

1. **Plots/Season:** Large plots measure 4 feet by 20 feet. Small plots measure 4 feet by 10 feet. A maximum of (1) plot per household is allowed, choose size at registration. The garden season begins in March and ends in November. Gardeners will have the right to garden their plots for the season in compliance with these Rules and Responsibilities. Household and family members may garden with the gardener.
2. **Applications:** All gardeners, returning or new, must apply each season. **No gardener will receive access to the garden lock combination for the season until completed application and payment are received and acknowledged by the Recreation Office.** Returning gardeners must register by March 31st to renew their plot location. Returning gardeners who do not submit completed applications with payment before March 31st are subject to the loss of their plot/s. To the extent possible, gardeners will maintain their rights to plant their same plot/s year after year.
3. **Fees:** Fees are payable to “Borough of Eatontown,” and marked “Eatontown Community Garden” and must be made with the application. Large Plot—\$25, Small Plot—\$15. This fee will be refunded in the event that no plots are available. No other expenses incurred by the gardener will be refunded or reimbursed.
4. **No Transfers:** Gardeners may not transfer plot gardening rights to others without the written consent of the Recreation Department.
5. **Gardeners may only plant and store items inside their assigned plot area.**
6. **Utilization:** Gardens will be planted promptly. Plots not planted to at least fifty percent usage by June 1st are subject to reassignment (weather dependent). At any time during the season, plots that appear abandoned in the opinion of the Recreation Department are subject to corrective action and/or reassignment if not corrected upon notice. Commercial operations are prohibited. If you have surplus of vegetables or fruits, please contact the Eatontown Food Co-Op or St. Dorothea’s Pantry.
7. **Planting:** Planting of invasive species is prohibited. Common mint, catnip, Jerusalem artichokes, comfrey, raspberries, tobacco, and cannabis are examples of prohibited plants. Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot to prevent shading on neighboring plots. Be mindful of distancing when planting to avoid growth into neighboring plots and aisle-ways.
8. **Garden Aisles:** There are aisles between Gardner’s plots. Gardeners are required to maintain and weed their plot as well as the boarding aisles. Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash free. Keep plot edges and fencing free of weeds that will go to seed. Aisles must be debris free.
9. **No power equipment** allowed by the gardeners.
10. **Children/Pets:** Pets or other animals may not be brought into the Garden. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
11. **Waste Material:** Plant refuse piles are set up for the weeds and diseased plants. The location to dump these items will be clearly marked. Please do not discard trash or kitchen scraps in these piles. Dispose of trash properly by taking it home. We “carry in and carry out” our trash. Place all vegetative materials in the clearly marked bins/piles.
12. **Compost and Wood Chips:** Homemade compost is prohibited. Compost will be provided for the garden by the Department of Public Works in the first week of April and again in July. Wood chips are to be used to layer in the aisle-ways to reduce weeds. Please use compost conservatively by applying only where you are planting/growing. Do not use wood chips in your plot.
13. **Water:** Water spigots at the t-stands and the hydrants must be turned off when not in use. Unattended watering is not permitted.
14. **Chemicals:** The use of herbicides (weed-killers) and pesticides is strictly prohibited. Biodegradable mulch, such as compost, leaves and hay, are encouraged. Carpet mulch is not allowed. Non-organic materials are prohibited. Black plastic is allowed, but must be removed at the end of each season.
15. **Plot Markers:** The stakes that mark your plot’s corners have an assigned plot number and must be left in place all season. Each plot will be rented with cornered stakes to mark your plot. Additional stakes are the responsibility of each gardener should they wish to have more.
16. **Structures/Fixtures:** Raised beds beyond 6” in height are prohibited. Containers are also prohibited. No pots, planters, bottles, etc. are to be used for planting. Fences, lattice, or similar structures above 5’, measured from the ground, that significantly restrict light and airflow are prohibited. All structures and fixtures must be removed on abandonment or termination.
17. **Community Storage Shed:** There is a shed on site for community use. If you use the garden’s tools, please clean and return them to the storage area when done. All items in the shed are community property and are for community use. Do not leave or store personal items in the shed.
18. **Garden Access:** All gardeners will be provided with the gate lock combination once registered and paid. Please keep this code confidential. It is important to keep the gate closed at all times. Lock the gate when you are the last to leave.
19. **Parking:** The roadway into the garden is for drop-off only. There are handicapped parking spots. Handicap placard must be displayed. All overflow parking must be done at the Gerry Tarantolo Park parking lot.
20. Do not touch other gardeners plots without permission.
21. **Compliance with the Law:** Gardeners will comply with all applicable laws and governmental regulations in all activities relating to the Garden.
22. **Failure to Comply/Termination: Failure to comply with these rules will result in termination of plot usage rights.**

Online Registration is preferred: [www.EatontownRecNJ.com](http://www.EatontownRecNJ.com) Use this form only if you do not have computer/internet access. Please be advised, e-mail is our primary method of communication.

# Eatontown Community Garden Application & Contract

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gardener's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Status**(circle 1)

Returning    New

**I already have an**

**EatontownRecNJ Account**

(circle 1)

Yes    No    Unknown

Home Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATIONS FOR NEW GARDENERS FOR 2026 SEASON WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 4/1/26.**

**Plot Size:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Large Plot (4' x 20') - \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ Small Plot (4' x 10') - \$15

\_\_\_\_\_ total amount due

Please contact Eatontown Recreation with any questions by email at **Tspennato@eatontownnj.com**, **Kquigley@eatontownnj.com** or by phone **(732) 389-7607**.

The Borough of Eatontown and their agents, employees, and officers 1) shall not be held liable for failure to perform or fulfill their contractual obligation for any reason within or beyond their control, 2) shall not be held liable for damages, loss or injury for any reason within or beyond their control and 3) shall not be liable for any theft, damage to, loss of, or replacement of any belongings, equipment, materials, tools, or plantings. Insurance for such loss, damages or injury shall be the sole responsibility of each Gardener at their own expense. The Gardener shall indemnify and hold harmless the Borough of Eatontown and their respective agents, employees, and officers against all claims, damages, losses and expenses that may result or arise in regard to the Gardener participation in the Eatontown Community Garden.

I, the undersigned applicant, have read, understand, and agree to comply with the Eatontown Community Garden Rules and Responsibilities (reverse/attached). I agree that failure to comply with these rules may result in termination of plot usage rights. I expressly release the Borough of Eatontown and their agents, employees, and officers from any and all liability for any damage, injury or loss to any person or good which may arise from participation.

Applications without signature will not be accepted.

Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or drop off this completed application with your plot fee (payable to "Borough of Eatontown," marked "Eatontown Community Garden") to:

Eatontown Recreation  
Attn: Eatontown Community Garden  
47 Broad Street  
Eatontown, New Jersey 07724

*If no plots are currently available, the applicant will be notified and placed on a waiting list, and fee payment will be refunded, until a plot becomes available.*