

# Zion Community Garden Plot Application and Waiver Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Gardener Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Gardener E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in “renting” a second plot if it were available?

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

All applicants:

- 1) I agree that I have received, read, and understand, the attached rules and agree to abide by them. I acknowledge that any violation of the rules may result in loss of garden privileges, forfeiture of plot and contents, and forfeiture of my deposit.
- 2) I agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Zion Reformed Church, its members, and volunteers from any vandalism, theft, property damage, or personal injury that might occur as the result of my voluntary participation in the community garden.
- 3) I agree to pay the plot fee of \$20.00 within two weeks of plot assignment.

4) In signing this, I am stating that I am prepared to meet the physical and other demands of gardening, including plot planting, maintenance, meeting participation.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Signature of Applicant*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Signature of Co-Gardener*

Fee Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

### Zion Community Garden Rules:

Applications for the Zion Community Garden will be accepted on/after April 1 and determination will be finalized on April 14. Participants will be notified by email, and acceptance must be received by May 1 with forms signed and received back. You will be assigned a bed that is yours to use throughout the season, pending ongoing maintenance of the bed throughout the season. The gardens will close on October 31. Your garden bed will need to be cleaned out prior to this date for you to be eligible for a refund and be placed on the priority list for next year.

Planting season can begin as soon as forms are received back. Please be aware that not all crops are appropriate for planting in the early spring. Planting may need to be postponed due to soil temperatures. If you have questions on when to plant, ask your garden manager-we have information to help with planting times. We want you to be successful! Initial planting must be completed by June 1. Below are the Garden Rules.

First and foremost be kind and respectful to your fellow gardeners. We are all here to grow and learn!

Community garden hours are 8 am to 8 pm daily. The community garden is for garden members only. These gardens are not intended to be open to the public. Please be aware there is Sunday worship service from 9:30 am to 11:00am, and occasional other evening activities. We would love to have you join us for worship on Sunday! Please be respectful of all activities taking place at the church during garden hours. Garden Managers/leaders will attempt to alert you of any planned activities in advance so that you can plan your gardening activities appropriately. Please make sure you close the gate when you leave the garden.

You are responsible for ongoing maintenance of the following for your assigned bed, including but not limited to: planting and harvesting, weeding, acceptable pest management (no chemical pesticides-check with the manager if you have questions on

this), additional watering if desired above provided irrigation, fertilization (again no chemicals or biosolids-we are trying for organic here, check with your garden manger if you have questions), cleaning out dead and diseased plants, and weeding of half of the pathway around your entire bed. Not maintaining your bed can be grounds for forfeiture. If for some reason, you are unable to maintain your bed, please notify the manager. We want you to be successful and will work with you to determine a plan to help avoid forfeiture if possible.

The beds at Zion Garden are limited in size. As such, smaller crops such as beans, lettuce, spinach, kale, carrots, beets, collards broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, Kohlrabi, BUSH varieties of squash, cucumber, determinate tomatoes (bush, not vine), eggplant, chives, basil, and peppers are allowed. All hot peppers should be clearly labeled to reduce risk of exposure to sensitive individuals. Acceptable flowers that are allowed are marigolds, zinnias, violas, nasturtiums, which can be planted in your bed and between plants as a means of natural pest management! If you have questions, please ask your garden manager before you plant.

Plants that are NOT allowed in the Zion Garden include: Non bush squash, melons/ pumpkins (these grow too large, have runners, and are difficult to contain in this size bed), corn (grows too tall and can potentially block the sunlight for other beds. Corn also needs a large space with wind for pollination to occur). Other plants not allowed include perennials (this includes herbs oregano, rosemary, mint-too large and invasive), onion sets, garlic, perennial flowers, trees of any kind-including dwarf fruit trees, strawberries, raspberries, ground cherries, asparagus, bamboo, bananas, sunflowers (again too tall), and ivies. No toxic plants are permitted. This list is not all inclusive, so if you have questions, please contact the garden manager.

Tomato cages are permitted for determinate/bush tomatoes only. At this time, we are not allowing additional garden structures such as trellises, additional fencing, hoops as they may shade other beds. Speak with your garden manager if you have questions.

No pets of any kind are allowed inside the Zion Garden. Emotional support animals are not allowed inside the garden perimeter. Service animals on leashes are allowed.

Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult gardener and must be supervised at all times while in the garden. They are not allowed to disturb any other gardener's bed.

You may harvest and eat what you produce. Under no circumstances can you take from any other bed. This is grounds for forfeiture of your garden bed. You may not sell/profit from anything you produce in the garden, it is intended for personal use only. We will be following a harvest when ripe protocol, we will harvest and donate it. If you have too

much produce to use, please consider sharing it with your neighbor! Or consider donating your produce to Zion Reformed Threads Ministry for those in need.

Alcohol use/intoxication, drugs/illegal substance use of any kind, smoking of any kind, vaping, and all weapons are strictly prohibited on the property, and will be grounds for garden forfeiture. No weapons are allowed on the premises. Physical or verbal abuse is considered grounds for forfeiture.

No loud music please-be respectful of the neighborhood, and your garden neighbors.

If you use the community garden's tools, you are responsible to clean them and put them back in the shed after each use.

Open fires on the property are strictly prohibited.

Sheet plastics, Cardboard, carpets, Styrofoam are not allowed in the community garden. Please ask the garden manager before you use any type of weed barrier. Compost is the best option for this.

Do not put diseased plants, pest infested plants, weeds, pet waste, or garbage/trash in the compost pile. Bag it up and dispose of it appropriately (Pack in Pack out). The compost pile is intended for end of season/post-harvest plants only, to decay for use as future soil amendment. Remember that what you put in the compost will most likely be in your garden bed next year. Trash, garbage and rotting produce will attract pests and rodents to our garden.

We have a process to address any concerns you might have, or conflicts you may encounter. Please speak to your garden manager with any questions or concerns.