

March 2010

South Kingstown Community Garden Application Form

Name(s): _____

Address/Zip: _____

Telephone numbers and times you may be reached for each number (place * by preferred number to call):

Home: _____ Best times to call: _____

Work: _____ Best times to call: _____

Cell: _____ Best times to call: _____

Other: _____ (who does this reach? _____)

E-mail address(es): _____

Check/respond to the appropriate items:

- I am a senior citizen/physically disabled and need a plot with easy access.
- If possible, I would like a garden next to a friend. Name: _____
- I have gardened before at (where?; for how long?) _____
- I would be interested in serving on one of the SK Community Garden Committees.

NOTE: The membership fee will be waived for clients of the Jonnycake Center – please take this form to the Client Services Manager for approval.

- I am requesting a 10' x 10' plot with an annual membership fee of \$25.
- I am requesting a 10' x 20' plot with an annual membership fee of \$45.

As a member of the Community Garden, I agree to abide by all Garden rules which have been approved by the South Kingstown Community Garden Board of Directors. I understand that the annual membership fee is non-refundable.

I realize that there are risks involved in any activity. I do hereby agree to assume these risks, and do hereby release and hold harmless the South Kingstown Community Garden Board of Directors, the Town of South Kingstown, and the Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale, of any and all liability which may arise as a result of my household's use of this garden.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Please return your form and your garden membership fee to: The Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale, 1231 Kingstown Rd., Peace Dale, RI 02879. Checks should be made payable to: South Kingstown Community Garden.

SOUTH KINGSTOWN COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES

The South Kingstown Community Garden is operated collectively by its gardeners on land donated by the Town of South Kingstown for this use. Our continued use of this land depends on maintaining good relationships with the community, the surrounding neighborhood, and the school district. We must all respect the interests of our fellow gardeners and the surrounding community. To promote this and to ensure that the needs of the Garden and the requirements of our ongoing use, and the relevant town ordinances are met, the South Kingstown Community Garden requires all gardeners to agree to and abide by these rules.

1. **Agreement and fee.** For the first year of operation (2009), applications and fees are due as soon as possible, and garden plots will be assigned on a first come basis. Subsequently, each year participating gardeners must submit a completed, signed Agreement and all required fees by **March 7**. If these are not postmarked by **that date**, your plot will be reassigned.
2. **Use of chemicals.** Gardeners are committed to organic methods of gardening and pest control and will agree never to use non-organic pesticides or herbicides in the garden. Use is grounds for immediate forfeiture of privileges and your plot, no refund.
3. **Service commitment.** Gardeners will perform a minimum of 6 hours in service to the garden annually.
 - Gardeners are responsible for ensuring that your minimum service hours are completed by November 2 and reported by November 16.
 - **Only reported, verified hours will be credited.** Failure to perform the minimum service during a year is a violation and results in consequences outlined under "Consequences of Rule Violations".
4. **Contact information.** Make sure the Garden Committee always has your **current address, phone number**, and (if possible) **e-mail address**. Optional: you can also provide contact information for a substitute to manage issues regarding your plot if you are unavailable (on a lengthy vacation, traveling for work, etc.).
5. **Transferability.** Gardeners may not transfer or sublet their plot unless a written request for a single-year transfer has been approved by the Garden Committee. Permission will **not** be granted more than once.
6. **Planting/cleanup deadlines.** Gardeners will clean up and plant their plot by the **June 1** planting deadline. Any plot not prepared and at least half planted by that date is considered abandoned and will be reassigned, with no refund provided. Remove dead plants and temporary structures by the **November 15** fall cleanup deadline.
7. **Expected conduct.** To retain gardening privileges and plot, gardeners agree to:
 - A. Act in a manner considerate of the rights, needs, and safety of other gardeners and the community at large and with courtesy toward others.
 - B. Tend your plot regularly to control weeds and provide an attractive, cared-for-appearance, keeping all plantings within your plot boundaries. In-plot compost bins or piles must be neat and properly made to prevent odors. No plot may be excessively weedy, untended, or filled with debris. Any plot with numerous weeds 2' or taller, or that shows no obvious maintenance for 3 weeks will be presumed abandoned and is subject to immediate forfeiture without refund.

- C. Maintain your half of the path around your plot regularly. Paths must be kept free of rocks, weeds, and all obstacles, including encroaching or overhanging plants (e.g., raspberries). Approved methods of maintaining public paths are: (1) regular mowing and (2) mulching with wood chips over landscape fabric. Carpeting, roofing materials, plastic, and other inorganic materials are prohibited.
- D. Be frugal in your use of water. Do not leave water flowing into your plot unattended, and no over night watering will be allowed. Gardeners with excessive water usage will receive a warning from the Garden Committee – if excessive usage continues the gardener will be asked to pay an additional water surcharge.
- E. Keep your plot free of trees. If an adjacent plot's gardener complains of excessive shading by anything on your plot, you must come to an agreement or remove it.
- F. Pick and remove your ripe produce promptly.
- G. All gardeners are expected to donate a portion of their produce to the Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale's emergency food pantry.
- H. Respect the Garden's property and assets. Use equipment and tools owned in common responsibly and treat them with care. Return them to the shed promptly and store them neatly and securely for the safety and convenience of fellow gardeners. Gardeners are free to use their own tools as they see fit.
- I. Do not enter others' plots except with permission or on garden business, nor allow unsupervised children to do so.
- J. Keep pets out of the garden area.
- K. Do not use motorized vehicles in the garden area.
- L. Close the garden gates when leaving so as to prevent access to the garden by deer and other wildlife.
- M. Respect school property. Keep rocks inside your plot's border or remove them from the grounds. Put compostable materials **only** in the garden compost area. **Never** dump debris or garden materials anywhere else on school property.
- N. Respect school parking limitations. Park in delimited parking spaces and do not block the driveway. Parking along the drive by the garden is only allowed for short-term unloading and loading. Parking may be limited during hours of school operation.

Consequences of Rule Violations

The cooperation of **all** gardeners is needed to ensure that the South Kingstown Community Garden runs smoothly and that we can maintain our obligations to our leaseholder and neighbors. If a gardener violates the agreed-upon rules, the Garden Committee will address the infraction as follows.

Immediate Plot Forfeiture (see rules above)

You will be notified that you have forfeited your plot if you:

- Fail to comply with Rule 1 or Rule 2.
- Abandon your plot (Rule 7B or Rule 6, planting deadline).
- Transfer it without permission (Rule 5).

- Fail to remedy any violation by the deadline in a second notice.
- Exhibit a pattern of behavior that shows disregard for the Garden's rules, such as repeated rule violations (e.g., 3 violations in 2 years), even if remedied.

Rule 3, service commitment procedures:

1. After the November reporting deadline, the Garden Committee will issue a notice to any gardener who has not fulfilled and reported in a timely fashion the minimum service hours.
2. Any shortfall will be made up by the end of June the following year. If the new requirement is not met in total that year, the Garden Committee will notify the gardener that the plot has been forfeited, and the plot will be reassigned.

Rule 7, conduct violation procedures:

1. If a violation is noted, the Garden Committee will attempt to contact the gardener by telephone or e-mail to alert them to the issue. If the matter is not resolved within a week, the Garden Committee will send the primary plot holder a **first notice** by mail, indicating the problem and the deadline for correction, which will be 10 days from the letter's postmark date.
2. If the problem is not corrected by the first-notice deadline, the Garden Committee issues a **second and final notice** by mail. It restates the problem and indicates both the deadline for correction (10 days from its postmark date) and the consequences of failing to correct the problem: **immediate plot forfeiture**.