

Basalt Community Garden Guidelines and Gardener Commitment and Application Form

1. Garden plots are to be used for growing vegetables and flowers for family use and not for commercial growing. This does not exclude owners of businesses, including gardening businesses from having individual plots for themselves or for their employees as long as it is for their own consumption. If you have excess produce, please share with your family, friends or the local foodbank (yellow marker sticks can be put in your plot beside vegetables you wish to share with fellow gardeners). Charitable and non-profit organizations may have plots as long as there is available space not wanted by families or individuals.

2. The Basalt Community Garden Board (BCGB) will accept applications on a first-come, first-serve basis. The plots are available to all who live and work in the Roaring Fork Valley. Returning gardeners will be allowed to retain their previous season's plots provided **they renew their application by March 31**. New gardeners should submit their applications as soon as possible. Please contact the garden coordinator, Gerry Terwilliger at 927-4629 or grterwilliger@gmail.com with questions and for clarification.

Standard plots, except handicap accessible ones, are eight feet wide and ten feet long (8X10). Individual gardeners can request larger or additional plots if available. It is important to contain the garden in the 8X10 space and plants should not be allowed to invade or ramble into the paths. Any wood, stone, etc., borders must be within the plot and not intrude into the paths.

3. All gardeners must attend a brief orientation at the garden prior to cultivating their plot to ensure that everyone has knowledge of systems such as watering, compost, etc. it is also a time for the Garden Board to make sure general garden care and maintenance duties are divided up among the gardeners. It is vital to the garden's success that everyone contributes some time to caring for the garden. All gardeners are expected to attend work days and to contribute a minimum of four hours toward the maintenance of the garden. **Gardeners will sign up for their work day when submitting their commitment form. In addition, gardeners have to keep the paths on the North and West sides of their plots weed free throughout the growing season. Gardeners who don't complete a work session or who don't keep their portion of the paths weed free will forfeit their deposit.** Gardeners are also encouraged to keep the paths to the South and East of their plots weed free if there are no active gardeners on those sides.

4. Our goal is to have an organic garden. Please check with your local garden center, the CSU master gardeners' website, or neighboring gardeners for organic means of dealing with gardening problems. No pesticides, herbicides or GMO's (genetically modified organisms) are allowed. In the event that an organic solution is not a viable option to a severe problem, an alternative solution can be submitted to the BCGB for consideration.

5. Gardeners are responsible for cultivating, weeding and watering their own plots. Your plot **needs to be in a cultivated state by June 15th** out of respect for other gardeners. Plots that appear to be abandoned and full of weeds are subject to reassignment with fees forfeited. Plants need to be confined to the plot and not allowed to ramble or fall over into the paths or other beds. Plants like mint and raspberries that spread by the roots are prohibited.

6. Garden plots may be raised a maximum of twelve inches except for handicap plots.

7. Children are strongly encouraged to respectfully participate in all the joys of gardening. Supervision is important at all times. Dogs or other pets are strictly prohibited in the garden. Any dogs brought to the garden must be tied up outside and not allowed to roam.

8. Gardeners are encouraged to walk or bicycle to the garden. Except for the handicap spaces by the entry gate, parking is in the Rio Grande Trail parking lot or in the Basalt High School parking lot behind the High School. After dropping off supplies at the site, please move your vehicle to one of these parking lots. Please keep the **garden gates and shed door closed while in the garden** and secure them when leaving and do not block them.

9. Water to the garden is being supplied by the Town of Basalt. It is treated and drinkable. Each individual gardener is expected to water their own plot. Please do not over water. There shall be no unattended watering with the exception of soaker hoses, drip or micro spray systems on battery timers. These need to be set up with water conservation in mind. Check hose and irrigation connections frequently for leaks. Frequent watering is only necessary when starting seeds, after that once or twice a week usually suffices. Ponding on the plot indicates overwatering.

10. Large tools such as shovels, hoes and wheelbarrows are available to all the gardeners to use. Please clean these after use before returning them to the shed. Small tools like trowels and weeders are to be provided by individual gardeners. They are **not** to be stored in the shed. The shed is solely for storage of community tools and no personal items are to be kept there.

11. There is no trash service at the garden and everyone needs to remove all their own trash, including plastic plant containers.

12. Here are a few things to keep in mind to enhance everyone's "community" experience:

- Please do not pluck the fruits of other gardeners' labors (veggies, flowers & fruits) unless they invite you to do so.
- This is an organic community garden, so everyone must refrain from using toxic chemicals, herbicides, pesticides and GMOs.
- If you decorate your garden (we love artistic expression) be sure it doesn't shade or encroach on another gardener's spot.

- Only use manual tools – they are easier on the ears. The only exception to this is small rotor tillers.
- Please pick up after yourself. The only waste to stay in the garden is plant refuse from the garden plots which can be composted.
- Be respectful of your fellow gardeners when listening to music or imbibing in refreshments. Basically, this means don't drink lots of alcohol and if you feel like dancing, at least wear headphones.
- Please do not bring pets into the garden. If you do bring them along, they need to be tied up outside the fence.
- No structures are allowed in the garden, but items like trellises, tomato cages, or other plant supports to help your garden grow are permitted.
- We do not allow invasive plants – including those that spread like mint and raspberries, noxious weeds or marijuana in the garden.
- The garden is open for your enjoyment every day of the gardening season. We just ask that you don't tend your plots between dusk and dawn.

These guidelines are subject to change. You are responsible for checking your email or other garden communications for updated information.

Enjoy the season! Enjoy the community! Enjoy the food!

2017
COMMITMENT AND APPLICATION FORM

I have read the guidelines and agree to abide by them. I understand that my failure to comply with the Guidelines may result in termination and reassignment of garden plots with no fee refund.

I also agree to not hold the Town of Basalt, Pitkin County and the Basalt Community Garden Board (BCGB) liable for any damages to my garden or my person and/or dependents while at the garden or the properties surrounding.

Likewise, in the event damage occurs to the gardens or the surrounding properties due to any negligence on my part, I will accept responsibility.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address (must be complete to get your deposit refund): _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Cell: _____ Phone Residence: _____

____ I am a returning gardener ____ I want to keep my plot ____ I want a different plot ____ I am a new gardener

The 2017 fee schedule FOR ALL PLOTS is \$40. The standard plot is 8X10. Gardens larger than one plot will be assessed at \$0.50 per square foot.

There will also be a refundable deposit of \$40 for each individual or family to insure that the duties of the gardener are carried out. Only one \$40 deposit is required for each family or individual regardless of plot size or number of plots.

All checks should be payable to the Town of Basalt and accompany this commitment and application form. The check should be for **\$80 (\$40 for standard 8X10 and \$40 deposit). Check with garden manager or coordinator if you have a larger plot.**

Please read and initial below:

____ I have read and understand the rules of the Basalt Community Garden and agree to abide by them and agree to help maintain the garden and keep the paths on the north and west side of my garden free of weeds.

____ I agree that I will not bring pets into the garden area, and that I will keep any pets restrained and will not allow them to roam outside the garden.

____ I agree to use organic gardening best practices

____ I agree to attend seasonal meetings as scheduled and participate in work projects at the garden.

I will attend the work day on (circle one):: (__ Saturday April 29, 9 - 1pm)::
(__ Thursday Evening 5/4, 5-7pm)::(__ Saturday May 13, 9-1pm)::(__ Wed. Evening 5/17, 5-7pm)::
(__ Saturday May 20, 9-1pm):: (__ Saturday June 6, 9-1pm)

Note that one evening is only one-half of the required work commitment.

Submit This Page along with check or money order payable to The Town of Basalt
and mail to:

Basalt Community Garden
PO Box 511, Basalt, Co. 81621