

The Root 66 Garden

Volunteer Agreement (Unabridged)

Effective Dates: April 1 – March 31 (annual)

Volunteer Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Volunteer Commitment

Root 66 Community Garden relies on volunteers to support its mission of community-based gardening, education, and sustainable food production. By signing this agreement, volunteers commit to:

- Contributing a minimum of **2 hours per month** toward garden upkeep, projects, or community events.
 - Following all **policies, rules, and safety guidelines** set forth in this agreement and in Exhibits A, B, and C.
 - Acting in a respectful, cooperative, and safe manner at all times while on garden property.
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Terms & Conditions

1. **Volunteer Status:**

This agreement does not create an employment relationship. Volunteers serve without expectation of compensation and at the discretion of The Root 66 Garden.

2. **Duration:**

Volunteer service is temporary and may be ended by either the volunteer or The Root 66 Garden at any time.

3. **Right to Refuse Participation:**

The Root 66 Garden reserves the right to refuse participation to any individual whose behavior is harmful, unsafe, or inconsistent with Garden policies. Theft, harassment, or verbal/physical aggression will result in immediate dismissal.

4. **Compliance:**

Volunteers agree to comply with all rules and guidelines contained in this agreement and Exhibits A, B, and C. Failure to comply may result in termination of volunteer privileges.

5. **Dispute Resolution:**

Disputes must first be addressed informally. If unresolved, disputes will be submitted to binding mediation in San Bernardino County, CA. Volunteers waive the right to file lawsuits except to enforce a mediation agreement.

6. **Acknowledgment:**

By signing, I confirm that I have read, understood, and agreed to the terms of this Volunteer Agreement and all attached Exhibits (A, B, and C).

Volunteer Signature

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Garden Representative

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A – Rules & Regulations

1. **Organic Practices Only:**

- No synthetic pesticides, herbicides, or chemical fertilizers are allowed.

2. **Water Use:**

- Use water responsibly and never leave hoses running unattended.
- Irrigation systems must be on timers (early morning or late afternoon use). Report leaks immediately.

3. **Respect:**
 - Respect all gardeners, guests, and fellow volunteers.
 - Do not interfere with other people's plots, plants, or projects.
 - Assault, harassment, or aggression of any kind will not be tolerated.
4. **Volunteer Participation:**
 - Contribute at least **2 hours per month** toward general maintenance, events, or other garden needs.
 - Volunteers are encouraged to join the Garden's communication platform (Telegram).
5. **Children & Guests:**
 - Children must be supervised at all times. Volunteers are responsible for their guests' conduct.
6. **Prohibited Conduct:**
 - No violence, harassment (including sexual harassment), nudity, intoxication, theft, vandalism, or disruptive behavior.
7. **Trash & Waste:**
 - Remove personal trash. Compost only in designated bins.
 - No dumping of household or hazardous waste.
8. **Animals:**
 - No personal pets inside the garden (service animals only).
9. **Bee Safety:**
 - Volunteers must follow Bee Etiquette Guidelines (Exhibit B).
10. **End of Service:**
 - Upon leaving, volunteers must return any borrowed tools and remove personal property within 2 weeks.
11. **Disputes:**
 - Disputes not resolved informally must go through mediation (see Terms & Conditions).
12. **Dismissal:**
 - Volunteers may be dismissed at any time for non-compliance.

Exhibit B – Bee Etiquette Guidelines

The Root 66 Garden partners with BeeRooted Bees, the official beekeeper, to maintain the garden's healthy bee population. All Gardeners must adhere to these guidelines for their safety and the wellbeing of the bees.

1. Hive Area:

Beehives are located in a designated apiary area, clearly marked.

Only BeeRooted Bees personnel or authorized beekeepers may handle or open hives.

2. Behavior Near Hives:

Do not stand directly in front of hive entrances or block flight paths.

Move calmly and avoid sudden movements.

3. Clothing & Scents:

Avoid wearing perfumes, scented lotions, or strongly scented hair products.

Wear light-colored clothing; avoid floral patterns and dark colors.

4. Do Not Disturb:

Do not touch, feed, or tamper with bees or their equipment.

Keep tools and watering at a safe distance from hives.

5. Allergy Awareness:

Notify garden management if you have a bee sting allergy.

Carry prescribed emergency medications.

In emergencies, call 911 immediately.

6. Education:

Gardeners are encouraged to participate in beekeeper-led tours and workshops.

7. Liability Disclaimer:

Gardeners assume all risks related to bees and beekeeping activities.

Gardeners release BeeRooted Bees, The Root 66 Garden, and their affiliates from any liability for injuries, allergic reactions, or damages related to bee activity.

Bee Etiquette Acknowledgment

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit C – Hold Harmless & Liability Waiver

I, the undersigned Gardener, acknowledge and agree that:

Gardening and participation at The Root 66 Garden involve inherent risks including injury, illness, or property damage.

I voluntarily assume all risks and hazards associated with my participation.

I release, waive, discharge, and hold harmless The Root 66 Garden, BeeRooted Bees, their officers, employees, volunteers, agents, and affiliates from all liability, claims, demands, or causes of action arising from my participation or use of garden facilities.

This waiver extends to any injury, loss, or damage caused by negligence or other acts by The Root 66 Garden or BeeRooted Bees.

I authorize emergency medical treatment at my expense if necessary.

Gardener Signature

Signature: _____

Date: _____