

NEW PALTZ GARDENS FOR NUTRITION 2021 APPLICATION FORM

Please fill out in **ink** and **PRINT CLEARLY**. Returning members must submit this application by **March 1** to guarantee renewal of their plots. First time gardeners are limited to one plot. All information is confidential. It is the member's responsibility to update contact info when changes occur.

Name _____
 Street _____ Town _____
 Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Plot Number(s) _____ I am a returning gardener _____ I am a first-timer requesting a plot _____
 Special needs/comments _____

1. All NPGFN members are **required** to contribute a minimum of two hours a month to the maintenance of the common areas of the Gardens (page 6) and to participate in at least two Community Work days (page 5).
2. **If you cannot participate in two of the Community Work Days, or execute your chosen tasks for whatever reason, we ask that you notify the Board and pay an exemption fee for the season in lieu of work.**
3. The Task portion below must be completed or your application will not be processed.

Please indicate your preferred task(s):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing vacant plots
<input type="checkbox"/> Flower bed maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Mowing paths
<input type="checkbox"/> Shed upkeep
<input type="checkbox"/> Sort metal, brush and scrap lumber | <input type="checkbox"/> Cart & wheelbarrow maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Deer fence maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Garden tool maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing repairs
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm paying the Exemption Fee |
|---|---|

4. Membership fees cover plot rental, use of tools and facilities. Plots cannot be assigned without payment and signature. Membership year begins 2/1/21 and ends 1/31/22, even if applications are submitted later in season.
5. Mail **pages 1 and 2** of the completed Application and check to: **Gardens for Nutrition, P.O. Box 835, New Paltz, NY 12561**. Make check or money order out to NPGFN. Keep pages 3-6 for your reference.

Plot Qty	ANNUAL FEE	Regular Fee	Seniors (62+) or Disabled	Subtotal
	Full Plot: 20' x 30'	\$45	\$30	\$
	Half Plot: 20' x 15'	\$30	\$25	\$
	Community Work Days/Task Exemption Fee	\$30	\$15	\$
	Tax Deductible Donation			\$
	Total Payment			\$

Signature required on Page 2...

PLEASE READ AND SIGN

In consideration of New Paltz Gardens for Nutrition giving me permission to cultivate a garden plot on lands owned by the Village of New Paltz, I hereby acknowledge that I enter upon the property and cultivate the garden at my own risk and expense and waive all claims for damage or loss to my person and property which may be caused by an act, or failure to act, of the Village of New Paltz, the Town of New Paltz or their officers, agents or employees, or members of the Board of the NPGFN. I assume the risk of any theft, destruction, or damage to my garden plot, or the produce grown thereon, or by the lack of adequate water supply. I assume the risk of any dangerous condition in or about the property where my garden plot is located and waive any and all specific notice of the existence of such conditions. This waiver shall apply to any persons, including members of my family, who assist me in the cultivation of my garden plot, or visitors to my plot. Any plants, garden materials, structures, or personal tools left in the plot after **March 1** will become the property of the new plot lessee.

Health & Safety (COVID-19 & Other Emergency) Protocols:

In accordance with state and CDC guidelines and/or to ensure the health and safety of its gardening community, NPGFN has instituted several protocols, including the following:

- Gardeners are required to wear face coverings upon entry, while in the common aisles or sheds, and whenever social distancing (i.e., a minimum six-foot distance from others) cannot be practiced.
- Visitors are not allowed in the Gardens.
- Congregations or large groups are not permitted.
- Gardeners should use hand sanitizer; remember to frequently wash hands; and refrain from coming to the Gardens if they are ill.

The NPGFN reserves the right to implement additional safety protocols during exceptional times as the Board deems appropriate.

I have read the 2021 New Paltz Gardens for Nutrition Rules and the Health & Safety Protocols and will adhere to them. I understand that failure to comply with the Garden Rules, requirements and Protocols will result in forfeiture of my gardening privileges.

➡ MEMBER SIGNATURE: _____ Date _____

NOTE- Each plot will have one primary member responsible for that plot. If there are adults sharing or helping in that plot (co-gardeners), they must register by signing this agreement and providing their email address below. If a co-gardener already has their own plot, they do not need to register as a co-gardener. If a member is unable to participate in Community Clean-Up Days or Tasks, their co-gardener(s) may work in their place.

1. Co-gardener Signature _____ Date _____

Print name _____ Email _____

2. Co-gardener Signature: _____ Date _____

Print name _____ Email _____

3. Co-gardener Signature: _____ Date _____

Print name _____ Email _____

2021 NPGFN GARDEN RULES

Please keep these rules for future reference. Do not mail them back with your application.

1. You are not just renting a plot, you are a member of a community. We need *everyone's* full cooperation in the execution of the tasks for which you have signed up throughout the season. You are expected to participate in at least two of the Community Work Days that will be held throughout the season. **If you cannot participate in two of the Community Work Days and execute your chosen tasks for whatever reason, we ask that you notify the Board and pay an exemption fee of \$30 (\$15 for seniors or the disabled) for the season in lieu of work.**
2. You may fence in your plot to deter theft and trespassing. Make sure your fence does not encroach on pathways. Deer or bird netting, plastic fencing and wood pallets must NOT be used for fence material.
3. You must keep at least 75% of your plot under cultivation with vegetables, flowers, and/or small fruits. Fruit trees are not allowed.
4. You are responsible for keeping your plot(s), fences, and all your fence lines, clean and weed free. Gardeners with unkempt/abandoned plots will be notified via email and asked to address the issue. If the issue is not resolved and/or no response is received, gardening privileges will be revoked and the plots will be reassigned. Gardeners who repeatedly do not follow the Rules regarding plot maintenance are at risk of having their privileges revoked. No refunds will be given to gardeners who have lost their gardening privileges. Please notify a member of the Board or email us at gardensfornutrition@yahoo.com if you will be unable to tend your plot for more than two weeks.

Keep in mind that throughout the season row checks are completed monthly in the few days before the monthly Board meetings. You will be notified if your plot is in violation of the garden rules. Initially, you will be notified by **May 7** regarding no preparation or cleaning of your assigned plot. You must reply and address the issue by **May 21**.

5. **Prohibited items include:**

- Glass (including windows for cold frames), plastic fencing/netting, plywood, tires, wood and plastic pallets, large rocks, gravel, cinder blocks, pressure treated lumber.
- Inorganic mulches including tarps, plastic sheeting (including plastic products labeled biodegradable), landscape fabric, rubber mulch and carpets. Wood chips, straw, leaves, pine needles and untreated grass clippings are acceptable mulches. Brown cardboard and non-glossy newspaper can be used but must be completely covered by compost or mulch so it adheres to the ground and does not house voles.
- Piles of organic debris or compost in plots, as they provide shelter and breeding habitat for voles.
- Herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, repellents and fertilizers not labeled for use in organic gardening.
- Saplings and trees, illegal plants, shrubs that grow over 6' tall, invasive plants that reseed or form colonies and spread into neighboring plots, making them difficult to remove (examples include Jerusalem artichoke, Rose of Sharon, lilac, elderberry among others). Also, plants growing into pathways.
- Accumulations of containers, wood boards on ground, or any other items that are not actively used in gardening. Do not store bags of mulch, compost or manure in plots (vole habitat).
- Noisemakers, such as windchimes, suspended pie tins, sonic rodent repelling devices, or anything else that intrudes on your neighbors' serenity.
- Structures that are hazardous or that shade a neighboring plot. The Board reserves the right to remove such structures. Arbors, pergolas or similar structures must be approved by the Board before erecting.

6. **Prohibited activities include:**

- Entering another gardener's plot without permission. **DO NOT HARVEST WHAT YOU HAVE NOT PLANTED!**
 - Commercial growing.
 - Growing plants outside of your plot's fence line.
 - Smoking or vaping in the garden.
 - Using water sprinklers or any unattended irrigation devices in plots.
 - Blocking paths. Wheelbarrows, carts, hoses, bicycles and plants must not block pathways at any time.
 - Playing radios or any device without headsets. Please use cell phones courteously.
 - Allowing pets inside the garden paths and plots. Trained service dogs are allowed.
 - Beekeeping.
7. Treat others gardeners with respect. Use of profanity, racial slurs or any other types of inappropriate behavior such as harassment will not be tolerated.
8. Use the NPGFN water system conscientiously and courteously. Shut off the water after use and remove personal hoses from hydrants, from along the pathways, or along the outside of your fences. Do not leave water on unattended.
9. **Clean and return tools, carts, and wheelbarrows to the shed before you leave the garden.** Lock the shed each time you take out or return tools to deter theft. Do not leave shed open, even for a short time.
10. When you leave the gardens (day or evening), secure **all four** of the gates. This is critical for deer control.
11. Weeds and other plant debris must be dumped at the base of the village leaf pile only. Do not dump debris in garden paths or the road. Rodents nest in anything that is not moved or turned over frequently.
12. Metal items, scrap lumber and brush must be placed in their designated locations to the left of the sheds. All plastic and trash should be placed in the garbage cans at the side of the parking lot. Large trash items should be brought home to dispose of.
13. At the end of the season clear out plots. Remove or tie down anything left in your plot so it does not float away in the winter/spring floods. Plastic pots, plastic 6-packs for seedlings, plastic bags, and any other forms of plastic will float away during the annual flooding and end up in the land of our neighbor, the Nyquist Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary. Please properly dispose of such plastic items and man-made materials when they are no longer in use.
14. **Rules regarding the Village of New Paltz:**
- The Gardens are open seven days a week from sunrise to sunset. Village Ordinance prohibits presence in the garden between 9 pm and 6 am. You may be subject to a Village fine if you are there during these hours.
 - Do not use Village drinking water for watering gardens. Faucets are labeled "Drinking Water" and are located in the park, outside of the NPGFN fence by Row A.
 - Do not park on the grounds of the Village Park or in front of the Village service entrance.
 - Follow the Village Park Ordinances- no smoking, alcohol use, camping or cooking in the park or gardens.

NEW PALTZ GARDENS FOR NUTRITION 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Please add to your calendars. Due to Covid-19 concerns, some events may be canceled.

Saturday, April 3, 10am-noon

Annual Spring Event

Speaker to be announced

New Paltz Village Hall, Second Floor, Large Conference Room, 25 Plattekill Avenue, New Paltz

Saturday, April 17, 1- 3pm

First Community Work Day and Fence Repair Day

Rain date April 18

Saturday, June 12, 10am-12pm

Second Community Work Day

Rain date Sunday, June 13

Saturday, August 7, 10am-12pm

Third Community Work Day

Rain Date Sunday, August 8

Saturday, September 11, 5pm-dusk

Annual Pot-Luck Dinner and Open House at the Gardens

Rain date Sunday, September 12

Saturday, September 18, 10am-12pm

Last Community Work Day, followed by Catered Lunch

Rain date Sunday, September 19

BOARD MEETINGS

Members and their guests are welcome to attend Board Meetings. Meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month, 7:00 or 7:30 PM, at the New Paltz Village Hall. The exception is the Annual Board Meeting & Election of new Board members, which is held on a Saturday in January, from 10AM- 12 PM. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change, so members should check email beforehand. Due to Covid-19, meetings may be held via Google Meet or outdoors.

MAINTENANCE TASK HELP

Unskilled:

- **Clearing vacant plots-** **This is the task we need the most help with**. We need help keeping vacant plots weeded/mowed. This includes weeding fence lines. You can work alone or with other gardeners as a team. The Board will send emails out throughout the season listing the plots that need work.
- **Flower bed maintenance-** We maintain small flower beds in front of the main entrance of the Garden, outside the deer fence. They include a mix of annuals, perennials and woody plants. These gardens need planting and mulching in the spring, weeding and deadheading all season, and fall cleanup. *This is a good job for gardeners who might not be able to help with more strenuous tasks.*
- **Mowing paths-** We are responsible for mowing all grass areas and paths inside the deer fence. Push lawn mowers and gas cans are kept in the tool shed and can be used by members and co-gardeners throughout the season. Mowers need to be cleaned after use. Details will be sent to members in the spring.
- **Shed upkeep-** We need help keeping the tools in the shed organized. *This is a good job for gardeners who might not be able to help with more strenuous tasks.*
- **Sort metal, brush and scrap lumber-** There are designated areas to the left of the tool shed where gardeners can deposit these items. These piles need to be kept organized so they may be picked up by the Village for recycling.

Skilled:

- **Cart and wheelbarrow maintenance-** Our carts and wheelbarrows are heavily used and often need repairs like replacing handles and fixing tires. NPGFN can obtain parts. We need helpers who can tell us what needs to be ordered and then make the necessary repairs.
- **Hand tool maintenance-** Our tools often need repairs like replacing handles or fixing loose rakes. They also need yearly maintenance like oiling wood handles and sharpening shovels and hoes.
- **Deer fence maintenance-** We rely on the fence to keep deer out of the gardens. The fence needs to be inspected throughout the season to make sure the wires are intact and to make sure the power is working.
- **Plumbing repairs-** NPGFN has its own well and maintains underground water lines to faucets. Occasionally there are leaky faucets that need to be repaired.