

# Elizabeth Street Community Gardens

## Membership Application & Renewal Form

### NEW APPLICANTS:

Complete all sections of this form, review rules & regulations, & sign at bottom of pages 1 & 3.

### RENEWING MEMBERS:

Fill in any information that is new since last year, review rules & regulations, & sign at bottom of pages 1 & 3.

Name (Primary Gardener; 18 or older) \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Gardeners, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Keyport, NJ 07735\_\_

Preferred Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (circle one: Cell Work Landline Home Landline)

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Experience gardening (circle one): Beginner Intermediate Experienced

The ESCG Committee communicates with ESCG Members primarily through email messages to individuals and to the entire group. If necessary, phone or postal mail would be used. No Member has access to non-email contact information of other Members.

### 2018 Hold Harmless Agreement

All ESCG Members and their guests agree to hold harmless the Keyport Garden Club for any liability, personal injury, damage, loss, or claim that may result from using the garden.

Assumption of Risk Waiver and Release - I am fully aware of that gardening activities carry special dangers and risks including, but not limited to physical injury, death, or other harmful consequences that may arise directly or indirectly to me from my participation. Being informed as to these risks and in consideration of being allowed to participate in this Borough-sponsored activity, I hereby assume all risks of injury, damage, liability, and harm to myself and any individual or minor child that I may bring on to the ESCG property. In addition, I am aware that I am fully responsible for the actions of anyone to whom I allow access to the garden. I realize that I am responsible for any injuries or damage caused by such persons and will hold the Keyport Garden Club harmless for myself or any of my visitors or surrogates. I also hereby individually and on behalf of my heirs, executor and assigns release, and hold harmless the Keyport Garden Club, Keyport Borough, borough officials, employees, agents, volunteers and members, and waive any right of recovery I might have to bring a lawsuit against them for any personal injury, death, or other consequences that may occur as a result of the use of this facility by me or any of my guests.

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail payment to:** Keyport Garden Club, PO Box 604, Keyport, NJ 07735  
*Please write "ESCG" in the memo portion of your check.*

Do Not Write Below

\$25 Payment – Payment Method: Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Plot # \_\_\_\_\_

# Elizabeth Street Community Gardens

## Membership Application & Renewal Form

### Rules and Regulations

(updated 11/2018)

**Mission** - Elizabeth Street Community Gardens (ESCG) is dedicated to maintaining an organic community garden that provides education and beautification to the community and supplies food for its members. ESCG members maintain the grounds at the ESCG, working in a spirit of cooperation and fellowship. Our goal is to offer a safe and attractive environment to people desiring a place to learn and grow edible produce and flowers.

The ESCG is managed by the ESCG Committee of the Keyport Garden Club.

These **Rules and Regulations** are intended to ensure the maintenance of a neat, safe, and productive garden area and assure a pleasant environment for all persons in the gardens and neighboring properties.

**TERMS:** The ESCG is available to Members-in-good-standing and their households, all of whom must be **residents of Keyport**. **To become a Member, submit an application (attached) and pay a fee of \$25.** Membership allows the use of a single plot and other ESCG facilities. Plots will be assigned to applicants in the order in which applications and payments have been received. If plots are still available **after May 15**, a member may purchase a **second plot**.

In addition to paying the fee, **each plot's gardeners are required to donate a combined 4 hours of labor** per growing season, under the direction of the ESCG Committee, to help maintain the ESCG. Such maintenance may include spreading woodchips, weeding common areas, end-of-season clean up, etc.

Under no circumstances may plots be sublet or transferred to another party. Any Member who can no longer maintain their plot during the season must inform the ESCG Committee. **Fees are non-refundable.**

The ESCG **season** will begin **April 1 and end December 1**. The ESCG may be accessed by Members between dawn and dusk. No person is permitted in the ESCG after dusk or before dawn. All plots must be **planted no later than June 1**. If a plot is not planted by June 1, the plot will be considered **abandoned** and will be made available to applicants on the waiting list.

Members with **unkempt plots** will receive two warnings, one week apart. If the Member does not respond or make improvements within 1 week of the second **warning**, his/her plot will be considered abandoned and will be **forfeited**. If a Member expects to be away for some time, ask another Member to water and weed for you. If you will be gone for 2 or more consecutive weeks during the growing season, please notify the ESCG committee in advance.

**RENEWALS:** Members-in-good-standing can chose to renew their membership, keeping the same plot. Renewal requests must be made by in writing with payment by October 15. If a Member wishes to renew but wants a different plot, this can be accommodated if the plot becomes available.

**ACCESS:** Each Member will receive the access code to the gates after the application and payments are accepted. Members must secure the locks upon leaving.

**COMMON AREAS:** Members are required to keep all common areas **neat and free of trash**. Members will remove **weeds from the paths** adjacent to their plots. Place weeds and other garden trimmings in the appropriate compost pile on site.

**COMPOSTING:** Please place any plant material on the designated compost pile. Properly managing the compost pile is the responsibility of all members. No plastic tags, line, or other synthetics are allowed in the compost - take them with you for disposal.

**ORGANIC METHODS:** All gardening at the ESCG must be done using organic methods. No chemical fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides may be used anywhere in the ESCG. No chemically treated wood (for borders stakes, etc.). No dyed wood chips or synthetic (i.e., rubber) chip-type mulch.

**PROHIBITED PLANTS:** To prevent casting shade on a neighboring plot, structures and plants taller than 6 feet (i.e., corn, tall sunflowers) are not permitted at ESCG. In addition, invasive plants are not allowed in the garden (**list will be provided**). In addition, cacti, castor beans, illegal, and poisonous plants are not permitted (**list will be provided**).

**WATERING:** The Committee will provide water and hoses. After using the water and hose, the Member must **wind up the hose, turn off water, and lock the spigot**.

**TOOLS:** Members are expected bring their own tools, but once the shed is built, the Committee will begin stocking it with some basic tools for all to share. Replace borrowed tools to the shed.

**BEHAVIOR:**

- **Children** must be supervised by adults.
- **Pets** are not permitted inside the garden.
- **Smoking** is not allowed. (Note that tobacco can spread tobacco mosaic virus to tomatoes, so smokers should wash hands after smoking and before entering the ESCG.)
- **Alcoholic beverages** are not allowed.
- When listening to **music**, use headphones or ear buds and maintain a volume that cannot be heard by others.
- When using a **cell phone**, be considerate of your neighbors and move to an unoccupied area.

**HARVESTING:** Members may only harvest crops and flowers from their **own plot**. Members are encouraged to **donate excess** crops on Tuesdays and Thursdays to the Community Church across the street.

**PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED:** At the end of the growing season and no later than **December 1**, Members must neaten their plots for the following season as per the direction of the ESCG committee. **Exceptions** may be made for perennial crops or extended, winter gardening, but must be **approved** by the Committee.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, *have read & agree to abide by all of the rules & regulations set forth above & I understand that if I do not comply with them, I forfeit my gardening privileges at the Elizabeth Street Community Gardens and will not receive a refund.*

Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_