

THE PERRY STREET GARDEN

Registration packet 2023



Sponsored by

City of Newton

Jasper County Steering Committee

The Perry Street Garden 2023

Introduction

Welcome to the tenth year of the Perry Street Garden! The Perry Street Garden is a joint venture between the entities listed on the first page.

The garden plots are located on Decatur Street on the 300 block. Parking is available on the streets located west and east of the garden (S. Church and Perry St. respectively). The Perry St. (alley) area is preferred and improved. Please keep in mind if it has recently rained it may not be advisable to park close to the plots.

We are happy that you are interested in renting a plot. This booklet will provide you with all the guidelines, the registration form and fees. We hope you have a fantastic gardening season!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions and concerns regarding the Perry Street Garden should be directed to:

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Garden season runs from April 1 to November 1. Illinois's typical growing season is from April –November, depending on the dates of first and last frost. Participants are granted access to their plot as soon as they have received their plot number confirmation. The ground may not be ready to plant just yet, but you can plan and prepare for the season. All plots will need to be cleared of all plant and non-plant material and returned to a level state by November 1.

Registration is open until all plots have been rented. The plots will be assigned on a first come first serve basis.

For this season we are not designating this garden as “organic”. Please keep in mind that while the use of pesticides is permitted, you need to be mindful of your neighbor's garden. There are many organic techniques you can use to outsmart the pests and keep your gardening neighbors happy too!

FEES

The fee to rent a garden plot covers many service costs, maintenance cost of mowing, time and materials of the brochures and administration fees. This year we are offering one garden plot size 15ft.x15ft. for \$10.00. You may rent as many plots as you wish.

The fee is due with your completed registration and Release of Liability form. Please return the completed forms to City Hall . After turning in your forms and payment you will receive your plot number assignment for the season. Plot number markers are located in the Northwest corner of each plot.

AMENITIES

Your \$10 fee per plot provides you with a tilled plot and access to water provided by the City of Newton. All equipment and plants must be provided by you. Please note that there are no restrooms available at the garden site. Please remember to use the trash can provided for any non-organic trash. The sponsors of this garden count on their participants to take responsibility in keeping the garden presentable for everyone. The garden has no handicap accessibility currently available. We may offer this convenience in future seasons. There was some theft of produce in the past years and it is hoped that the community would realize that the plots are rented and maintained by those renters and that all produce is the property of those renters. Please respect their ownership!!

COMPOST PILE

The compost area is located on the South side of the gardening plots. Gardeners may use this area to dispose of any disease-free plant material they may have. When this plant material decays it can be used as compost. Please place plant material as close to the back of the lot as possible.

Should you remove any diseased plant material from your plot please place it in the trash can. It is important to keep the diseased plant material separated from others that will eventually be used on the garden again as compost.

END OF SEASON

The garden season ends November 1. All gardeners must have their plots cleared of all plant and non-plant material and returned to a level state by November 1. All plant material should go to the designated compost pile and all non-plant material (fencing, wooden structures, stakes, etc...) needs to be completely removed from the garden area by you. All raised beds must be leveled.

THE PERRY STREET GARDEN GUIDELINES

The following guidelines were established to not only keep the garden running smoothly and effectively, but to assist you in practicing healthy and environmentally sound gardening techniques. As a participant in the garden you have agreed to abide by these guidelines or are subject to relinquish your plot. It is our hope that you enjoy this gardening season and have a bountiful harvest. Please take a moment to read these guidelines.

1. Provide your own seeds and plants
2. Provide and store your own tools. City of Newton cannot be responsible for lost tools. Water will be provided.
3. No perennial planting is allowed.
4. Respect your neighbor's plot by leaving a mandatory maintained edge around your garden. Leave a 1ft. pathway around all sides of your plot. Keep your garden within your assigned plot area. The borders will allow access for water hoses without trampling plants as well as clear mowing edge for maintenance of the grass paths.
5. You may erect a fence or any structure within your garden plot, but it is not required. Fences must allow for the mandatory edge outside of the fence. All structures must be taken down at the end of the growing season.
6. Thin, plastic, mesh netting will not be allowed. The light netting can be blown out of the garden area and pose a threat to local wildlife in the area. If you have questions regarding your fence please don't hesitate to ask.
7. Immediately remove diseased plants and dispose of them in the proper waste area or the trash bins on the property.
8. Transport disease-free plant material to the compost pile on the south side of the garden. Place only biodegradable material in the compost site.
9. Keep pathways free of tools and debris.
10. Place all non-biodegradable material in the trash bins.
11. At the end of the season all gardeners must clear their plots of all structures, fencing, stakes, strings, plant materials etc....by November 1. This will enable fall tilling.

Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in the following:

1. You will receive a warning letter or phone call regarding the area of concern.
2. You will be given two weeks to correct the issue or contact the Master Gardeners
3. After two weeks have passed you entire plot will be mowed.

REGISTRATION FORM

1. Gardener Name _____
2. Gardening Partner _____
3. Gardener's Address _____
4. Gardener's Phone _____
5. Partner's Phone _____
6. Gardener's E-Mail _____
7. Partner's E-Mail _____
8. If new Gardener, would you like an experienced gardener to help you? _____
9. If you are an experienced gardener would you help a new gardener? _____
10. All gardeners are required to share their phone numbers with garden leaders. In addition, phone numbers and e-mails are shared with all other gardeners. Do you want to share your phone and e-mail with other gardeners? Yes _____
No _____
11. Occasionally, fellow gardeners or media may want to take photos of your garden. Is this acceptable to you? Yes _____ No _____
12. Plots: 15ft.x15ft. @ \$10 each x number of plots= Total _____

By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the Gardener Guidelines and plan to abide by all the rules. I understand that the Master Gardeners, the City of Newton, and the Jasper County Steering Committee are not responsible for my actions.

Signature (s)

Date

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

READ CAREFULLY—THIS AFFECTS YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

In exchange for participation in the activity of The Perry Street Garden and the use of the property, facilities, and services of the Garden, I agree for myself and (if applicable) for the members of my family and gardening partner to the following:

1. I agree to observe and obey all posted rules and warnings, and further agree to follow any oral instructions or directions given by the organizers of the Garden.
2. I recognize that there are certain inherent risks associated with the above described activity and I assume full responsibility for personal injury to myself and (if applicable) my family members and gardening partner and further release and discharge the City of Newton, the Master Gardeners, and the Jasper County Steering Committee for injury, loss, or damage arising out of my or my family's , my gardening partner's use of or presence upon the facilities of the Garden, whether caused by the fault of myself, my family, my gardening partner or other third parties.
3. I agree to indemnify and defend the City of Newton, the Master Gardeners, and the Jasper County Steering Committee against all claims, causes of action, damages, judgments, costs or expenses, including attorney fees and other litigation costs, which may in any way arise from mine or my family or my gardening partner's use of or presence upon the facilities.
4. I agree to pay for all damages to the facilities of the Garden caused by me or my family or gardening partner's negligent, reckless or willful actions.
5. Any legal or equitable claim that may arise from participation in the above shall be resolved under Illinois law.

I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS

Dated: _____

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

Address: _____

In case of emergency, please call _____

Phone # _____