

**Ted Sparko Memorial
Easthampton Community Garden
Plot Application**

For the 2023 Growing Season: DUE APRIL 3, 2023 - Applications should be submitted ONLY after confirming the availability of plots.

Required Information

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Telephone:

Are you a new or returning gardener? NEW RETURNING

Half plots might be available if interested– please note if that is what you would prefer.

All gardeners are required to contribute to the maintenance, governance, and protection of the garden. This is a **community** garden that we must tend to together. It is essential that everyone contribute to the sustainability of this beautiful bit of land we share. This includes *not* putting trash or waste around the shed, compost or any part of the surrounding area.

Each gardener or plot must complete a minimum of *four* hours of Community Garden service per season. Please choose any and all roles that suit your skills and interests; descriptions of these volunteer crews are on the last page of this application. Your position will be confirmed at the first garden meeting of the season after applications are emailed, and communication regarding completion of your hours will be through the Volunteer Hours Coordinator.

- Mowing crew
- Donation plot crew
- Compost crew
- Flower bed crew
- Pollinator Plot crew
- Other (as approved by committee) _____

The garden is run by the Garden Committee. Below are the committee members volunteering for this 2023 season. If interested in joining the committee please note it thus and you will be contacted!

- **Garden committee members** (must attend Garden Committee meetings)
 - Outreach/Social Media Coordinator: Eric eric@ericciocca.com
 - Treasurer: Ted Stock, email, stocktp@aol.com
 - Volunteer Hours Coordinator: Deb Friedman, email: jwanddf@juno.com
 - Secretary/Clerk: Stephen,
 - Chair: Sarah King, email: sarahkking117@gmail.com
 - Operations Coordinator: Frank, Mark,
 - Donation Garden Coordinator: Linnea
 - Pollinator Garden: Karen
 - First Year Gardener Coordinator: Sarah King, email: sarahkking117@gmail.com
 - Internal outreach/Plot Coordinator: Margie Phillips: email: marjodancer@gmail.com

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING:

- I have read and understand the Rules and Guidelines and have received a copy.
- I agree to pay a minimum fee of \$20.00 to help cover garden expenses. No one will be turned away for lack of funds so please reach out accordingly!
- I agree to participate in a New Gardener Orientation, either as part of opening day or on an individual basis as coordinated with First Year Garden Coordinator..
- I will cultivate my plot by the first weekend after Memorial Day this year.
- I will mulch and weed the paths around my plot in coordination with my plot neighbors.
- I will sign up for a volunteer role, and complete *at least* FOUR hours of work per gardener NOT per plot.
- I understand that if my plot does not pass seasonal inspections, it will be deemed abandoned.
- If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Garden Committee.
- If my plot has been deemed abandoned without gardener notification or I have not completed my volunteer hours, I will not be eligible to renew my plot.
- I understand the rules, guidelines and fees are subject to change in coming seasons.

I understand that gardening is a physical activity with associated risks. I accept such risks and agree to hold harmless the Garden Committee, its members in their individual capacity, and the City of Easthampton from and against any liabilities, damages, and losses that may be suffered by me during my participation.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

*** NEW gardeners please contact Margie Phillips at: marjodancer@gmail.com to have your name added to the wait list and/or confirm there is an available plot before remitting your application and fee to the city.**

*** For RETURNING gardeners, please make your \$20 checks/money orders payable to the *City of Easthampton* and mail along with your completed and signed application to:**

**Easthampton Community Garden
% Easthampton City Hall
50 Payson Ave.
Easthampton, MA 01027**

You can also put your application and check/money order in the drop box outside of the building- please be sure “Easthampton Community Garden” appears on the front of the envelope.

**If anyone desires to discuss any special needs kindly contact Margie Phillips
marjodancer@gmail.com**

Garden Job Descriptions

Garden committee members

Garden committee members attend committee meetings once per month between February and November. In addition to helping make decisions regarding the budget, governance, and organization of the garden, they often volunteer for jobs as the need arises.

Mowing crew

People on the mowing crew are responsible for keeping the paths and general areas mowed and trimmed. Members of the mowing crew should plan to mow at least three times per season.

Donation plots crew

Plant, weed, and harvest items in the donation plot and deliver once weekly delivery to Easthampton Community Center.

Compost crew

The compost crew helps to actively manage the garden compost areas. This includes making sure the compost is inside the bins, chopping weeds, turning the pile and closing piles as needed.

Flower bed crew

Flower bed care consists of watering and weeding the flower beds in the parking area.

Pollinator plot crew

Plant, selectively weed, and maintain the pollinator plot.

Other:

Suggestions for other jobs will be considered!

Other more generalized activities for community service hours include work days, thistle clean up projects, ragweed pulling, aiding in the rehabilitation of abandoned plots, helping other garden members maintain plots if the need arises etc.