

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

35 Ely Rd.

Mailing Address: 110 Main St.

Monson, MA 01057

413-267-4137

Monson Community Garden

ANNUAL SIGN UP 2012

Please complete the following application and return it to David Ramsey (31 State St., Apt 24B), along with your check for \$25 made out to Monson Community Garden.

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

TOWN/CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please check here if you are a returning gardener

Check here if you want the same plot for the 2012 season

- I will pay a fee of \$25.00/plot + \$5.00 key deposit to help cover the garden expenses
- If I must abandon my plot assigned to me for any reason, I will notify the garden coordinator promptly
- I will keep the weeds down and maintain my assigned plot throughout the growing season
- I will keep litter and trash cleaned from my assigned plot
- I will clean up my plot at the end of the growing season. Be sure to mark any crop you plan on keeping in over the winter
- I will not plant any tall crops where they will shade neighboring plots
- I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user
- I will not bring pets to the garden

I understand that neither the garden coordinators nor the owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN COORDINATORS AND THE OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

David Ramsey
Garden Coordinator
413-218-6271



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INFORMATION AND GENERAL RULES

1. **Garden Plots:** the plots are approximately 20 x 30 feet in size and will be prepared by plowing and/or harrowing each spring. The plot rental fee is \$25.00 (+\$5.00 key deposit) per plot. Plots not paid for by the Memorial Day official opening will be available for re-assignment.
2. **Supplies:** each gardener is responsible for bringing their own tools. There is a wheelbarrow and other tools in the storage shed for your use. Please return them to the shed when you are finished. You may put up a **TEMPORARY** fence around your plot to keep out critters. This fencing should be removed at the end of the season. It will make it easier to prepare the fields the following season. Please be considerate of your fellow gardeners.
3. **Weed Control:** it is the gardener's responsibility to control the weeds and destructive insects within their garden plot. It would not be fair to your neighboring garden to be taken over by your weeds and bugs. Only naturally derived (organic) weed and insect controls are allowed. No synthetic pesticides or herbicides will be used.
4. **Fertilizers:** fertilizer must be natural materials. This eliminates most general-purpose fertilizers, which contain superphosphate and other synthetic materials. Likewise, make sure that any compost you bring in is derived from organic vegetation and not from material that was raised using banned substances.
5. **Additional Gardener Responsibilities:** each gardener will be responsible for maintaining his/her individual plot. In addition, all plants should be confined to within their plot boundaries. Seeds should be placed inside the plot lines at least one foot to prevent spreading onto your neighbor's plot. Your corn stalks cannot be shading your neighbor's gardens. While we encourage families to have fun together gardening, children should be supervised by the people they are with and should not be allowed to cause damage to adjacent gardens. No pets are permitted, leashed or not. While you may think your dog is well behaved, he/she

may take a liking to running after a bunny and they will not let a tomato plant stop them. Individual gardeners will respect the rights of others and do not trespass on adjacent lots or private property outside of the Keep Homestead Museum land. Please note that there aren't any telephones on site. Cell phone coverage is also spotty, so it would be wise to let a family member or neighbor know that you will be in the garden in case of emergency. Any use of a power (motor driven) tool is permitted only between the hours of 8 AM and 6 PM. NO EXCEPTIONS.

6. **Parking:** There is a large parking lot adjacent to the gardens. Cars are allowed only in that lot. DO NOT PARK ON THE ROAD!
7. **Water:** Town water is available at the faucet by the porta-potty. Please use sparingly as we are billed for it. This water line is on a timer and cannot be used at night. If it has shut off earlier than you need, please contact the coordinator.
8. **End of season cleanup: The official opening of the garden is Memorial Weekend.** The season will be from that weekend thru the fall. All sites must be cleaned up by mid-October so that a winter cover crop can be planted. An inspection will be made at that time to ensure each gardener has removed any and all plant cages, trellises, stakes, fencing, statues, scarecrows, etc. The only items to leave in place are the four corner stakes that mark the plot boundaries. Please do not leave your trash, plastic jugs, etc. on site for others to pick up. There is a well-marked location to dispose of your materials from your plot that can be composted. Do not throw any other items in this location that will not break down into compost. Items to include are corn stalks, vegetable plants, rotten vegetables, etc. Items that will not be allowed in this area are any plastics, metals, rubber or wooden materials. Please put any rocks you may find/use in your garden plot along the stonewall that borders the garden area. Do not throw the rocks into the compost area. Gardeners who abuse these rules will not be invited back next year. It is not fair to the others who do take responsibility for their plots. Please respect the beautiful land that is available for you at all times. The future of the Community Garden depends on you.
9. **Town responsibility/liability:** The Keep Homestead Museum and the Town of Monson makes the land available for the Community Garden project and that is the sole and only responsibility of the museum and the town. The town assumes no other liability for use of the area, or for personal injury, loss of tools, produce or any other mishap.

HAPPY GARDENING TO ALL!!!



This project is supported in part from the people of Monson through the Monson Community Preservation Act