



**Giving Garden of Carrollton
2020 Adopt-a-Plot Application**

Choose one:

New Gardener **Renewing Gardener (Bed Number(s) _____**

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, Zip Code: _____ **Phone:** _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD): _____

Email (required): _____

List others who will be working with you on your plot: _____

I wish to reserve a: **Full bed (\$40)** **Half bed (\$20)**

Method of payment: **Cash**
 Check

Make checks payable to *Community Gardens of Carrollton* and write *The Giving Garden* in the memo section of your check. Mail this form, your signed acknowledgment of the garden rules and your payment to:

**The Giving Garden of Carrollton
c/o Aldersgate UMC ATTN: Doug Forbes
3926 Old Denton Rd.
Carrollton, TX 75007**

I give permission to release to the media or use for garden purposes any photographs taken of myself or my family at the garden.

Please complete the following agreement.

Giving Garden of Carrollton (GGC) 2020 Adopt-a-Plot Agreement

Terms of Agreement for Adopt-a-Plot:

1. New gardeners and anyone who will be working in their bed must meet with a board member for an interview and tour prior to applying for a garden plot.
2. All gardeners must attend a spring orientation at the garden and must sign up for and complete at least three harvest or delivery assignments yearly. These occur primarily on Saturdays. Note: If you have two beds, must sign up for six (either harvesting or delivering).
3. The Giving Garden of Carrollton (GGC) will provide the garden plot, water, access to tools, mulch, compost, gardening information, and a selection of seeds and some transplants, when available.
4. This agreement allows the signer to the use of a garden plot from **January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020** unless otherwise terminated.
5. Gardeners will continuously produce vegetables and companion plants by succession planting, amending and mulching soils with organic matter and using proper watering techniques. Bare soils should be kept to a minimum and during winter, gardeners should mulch beds and/or plant a winter cover crop.
6. Gardeners are responsible for maintaining adjacent paths, aisles and edges. Maintenance is defined as: Removal of encroaching Bermuda grass and other weeds and grasses within your plot and two feet of bordering pathways and regular harvesting and removal of dead/dying plants and rotting vegetables. If you are letting a plant go to seed in order to collect the seeds, please indicate by placing a bag over the fruit or plant. This will keep those seeds from spreading and will notify everyone that you are collecting seeds. If gardeners do not maintain their plots they may be subject to declined renewal for the following year.
7. Gardeners agree to donate at least 50% of their produce, based on either weight or count, to groups as organized by the GGC Board. Gardeners should harvest and donate produce according to established schedules or arrange for another gardener to do it. Gardeners can only harvest or work in other gardeners' plots if they have permission by that gardener. On day of official harvest, typically on Saturday, everything that is ripe and ready will be harvested unless a red noodle has been placed in the bed.
8. Year round gardening is encouraged. Plots should be prepared and planted no later than April 1 of the growing year. Plots should be cleaned out no later than December 1 or as soon as all plants in the bed have stopped producing. If gardeners do not maintain a productive bed, the plot may be given to the next person on the waiting list.
9. Gardeners must clean and put away all tools, implements, hoses, and dispose of non-organic debris, refuse and garbage when they leave the garden. Hoses must be neatly rolled up or hung after each use.
10. Each Gardener will support the GGC by doing their fair share of common work. Considerations will be given for special skills, physical and mental capabilities, and age. Youth participation is encouraged with adult guidance. Gardeners are expected to participate in harvesting and other activities as provided in the garden work schedule.
11. New gardeners will be given priority over existing gardeners if plots become available. New gardeners are limited to one plot for the first year. If a plot becomes available during the year, and no garden applicants are waiting for a plot, an existing gardener may request an additional plot provided they have shown that they are committed to the goals of the garden. The maximum allowance of garden plots by one family or group is two plots.

12. We request verbal or e-mail notification to the GGC Board if a gardener cannot maintain their plot or meet the responsibilities of this agreement. Garden plots cannot be transferred to family members or others. No refund of the rental fee will be made if a bed is given up or reclaimed due to non-performance. Bed must be cleaned out and perennial plants removed when bed is given up.
13. Gardeners will volunteer at least two (2) hours/month, on average, in a contract period, to help make this community garden successful. Volunteer tasks include, but are not limited to, harvest, delivery, weeding pathways, flipping compost, garden workdays, etc. Volunteer hours must be reported each month via email. Gardeners who do not put in their volunteer hours are subject to declined renewal.
14. Gardeners cannot grow plants listed on the Federal and State Noxious Weed list or the illegal plant list. Gardeners should plant the majority of their bed in edible vegetables.
15. Gardeners will use approved fertilizers, insecticides and agree to maintain an organic garden.
16. Pets are not allowed in the garden. Never compost dog and cat feces.
17. Children under 15 years of age are not allowed in the garden unless supervised by an adult.
18. Gardeners and visitors should walk through the garden on the garden paths. Never step on the garden beds and plots' soil.
19. Gardeners will strive to learn and use organic gardening methods to produce more disease resistant and pest free plants, and more nutritious fruits and vegetables.
20. Gardeners will respect neighboring plots by keeping vines and shade from tall plants or trellises within their plot borders. Vining plants must be trellised or kept inside the bed to help prevent a tripping hazard. Any equipment borrowed should be returned clean and in good condition to the proper location.
21. Water is a valuable resource. Gardeners must use it wisely and make sure all water is turned off after each use. Fix leaky hoses and connections so water is not wasted. Use of water from rain barrels is encouraged.
22. Gardeners will dispose of plant refuse by either cutting materials to compostable size to add to the compost bins or by bagging their refuse and placing in the church dumpster or hauling away from garden. Do not compost weeds, diseased plants or woody trunks.
23. Gardeners must adhere to the guidelines as stated to continue to garden their adopted plot(s). The GGC Board will contact the gardener in writing with one grievance stating a specified time to adhere. If the gardener does not adhere, the plot will be reassigned.

Please acknowledge your understanding and agreement to adhere to the guidelines by completing, signing and dating in the space provided on the following page.

I, _____, agree to adhere to all guidelines as stated in the 2020 Adopt-a-Plot Agreement to maintain my Giving Garden of Carrollton plot. I understand that neither Giving Garden of Carrollton nor Aldersgate United Methodist Church is responsible for my actions.

I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GIVING GARDEN OF CARROLLTON AND ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please keep a copy of this agreement for your records.