



# 2016 Summit Achieve Community Garden Reduced Fee Application

[www.SummitAchieveGarden.com](http://www.SummitAchieveGarden.com) | **DUE BY FEB 25, 2016**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Gardener (print) E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address Phone Number

Garden Plot Fee	\$25.00	*This is a Reduced Fee Garden Participation Application. Maximum income guidelines apply to qualify. All Gardeners pay a security deposit, which will be refunded when the plot is cleared and a minimum of 4 volunteer hours are completed by Nov 1, 2016. All Gardeners are required to attend an organizational meeting on either Thursday, March 31 at 7:30pm at Summit YMCA branch or Saturday, April 2 at 9:30am at the Community Garden.
Security Deposit	*25.00	
Optional Donation		
<b>Total Due:</b>		

**NOTE:** Payment may be made by credit card or check payable to Summit Area YMCA. Please send your application and fees to Janet Smith, Summit Area YMCA, 490 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901. Email inquiries to [sacg@theSAY.org](mailto:sacg@theSAY.org). The YMCA offers financial assistance for lower income level gardeners to participate in the Community Garden. **APPLICATIONS DUE BY FEB 25, 2016.**

### Gardener/Co-Gardener Agreement:

I/We understand that the goal of the Summit ACHIEVE Community Garden is to grow organic vegetables, fruits, and herbs to promote healthy eating. The Garden has operating rules that all Gardeners and Co-gardeners must agree to follow in order to participate. If there are more applicants than there are plots available, the plots will be assigned by a lottery system. There is a limitation of one garden plot per household.

The Gardeners and Co-gardeners recognize and acknowledge that using the Summit ACHIEVE Community Garden is a privilege and in consideration thereof are waiving any claim or right for personal injury or property damage arising out of or in connection with use of the community garden located at Beauvoir Avenue, Summit, New Jersey.

Gardeners agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Summit Area YMCA, its agents, volunteers and employees for any and all claims arising out of or in connection with the Gardener's use of the community garden and the plot. All rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the community garden will be unilaterally determined and enforced by members of the Garden Committee.

All Gardeners working in an assigned plot will acknowledge and follow the Summit Community Garden Operating Rules shown on the back of this application. The garden's gate lock combination must be kept confidential to those whose names are listed below. More information may be found at the garden's website [www.SummitAchieveGarden.com](http://www.SummitAchieveGarden.com).

### Primary Gardener and Co-gardeners over age 17 must agree to the above by completeing this form:

_____ Primary Gardener (print)	_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Cell/Home Number
_____ Co-Gardener	_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Cell/Home Number
_____ Co-Gardener	_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Cell/Home Number
_____ Co-Gardener	_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Cell/Home Number
_____ Co-Gardener	_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Cell/Home Number

The mission of the Summit ACHIEVE Community Garden is to bring neighbors together to share the benefits of organic gardening for a healthier community. As such, we strive to provide fresh vegetables to our neighbors who visit the Saint Teresa Food Pantry. We ask that you consider donating your excess crops to the Food Pantry when we organize weekly collections, and sign up to work in the Food Pantry bed.

# Summit Achieve Community Garden Operating Rules

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Primary Gardeners must be at least 21 years old and live in Summit; household members must be at least 13 years old to work in the Garden unsupervised. All people over age 17 who will have access to the garden must sign the plot Application Form.

All children must be closely supervised and are not allowed to engage in roughhousing or other behavior that would disturb Gardeners.

## Time Commitments:

- 1. All Gardeners are required to attend one Organizational Meeting, scheduled for Thurs. March 31 at 7:30pm at Summit YMCA Branch, and Sat. April 2 at 9:30am at the Community Garden.**
- Gardeners must plan to attend at least **2** work days for general garden maintenance; gardeners who cannot meet this requirement must notify the Garden Committee to make alternative arrangements.
- Gardeners must commit to a minimum of **4** hours of volunteer time to assist with the maintenance of common areas (e.g., mowing lawn, weeding common areas, maintaining compost, spreading wood chips).

## Plot Maintenance:

- 1. The Garden operates as an organic garden.** The use of non-organic products is prohibited (e.g., Miracle Grow, Preen).
- Your assigned plot must be planted by May 31st, or it will be forfeited.
- Gardeners must tend their plot at least weekly to harvest ripe crops, stake and tie up plants that are growing out of the bed, and remove weeds and fallen crops in and around the bed.
- Gardeners who are unable to tend their plot due to illness or vacation must notify the Garden Committee to make other arrangements.
- Gardeners are responsible for weeding the paths and areas around their plot.
- Plots that appear abandoned or unkempt in the opinion of the Committee are subject to corrective action/reassignment within two weeks notice from the Committee.
- Plants that are invasive in nature are not allowed. (See SACG Checklist of Prohibited Plants).
- Wood chips may not be used as mulch in the Garden Plots, although mulching with hay or straw is encouraged.
- Temporary plant supports that are no higher than 5 feet are permitted, e.g., tomato cages and trellises. All other structures must be approved by the Garden Committee.
- Garden plots must be completely cleared out and raked at the end of the garden season. All plant debris, weeds, plastic plant tags, and other objects must be removed from the plot and garden.
- A Gardener must immediately notify SACG in writing if unable to maintain a plot. No application fee will be refunded.

**Grievances:** Gardeners should try to resolve any grievances with fellow Gardeners. If a Gardener is unable to resolve a grievance with a fellow Gardener, he/she may ask the Garden Committee for a resolution.

**Failure to comply with the Operating Rules may result in forfeiture of the plot, garden fee, and the security deposit. Gardeners who fail to comply with the Operating Rules will not be eligible for a plot in future garden seasons.**

## General Operation:

Garden Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, or dusk, whichever is earlier; Saturday - Sunday, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, or dusk, whichever is earlier.

## Before You Leave The Garden:

- Water spigots must be turned off.
- Hoses should be returned to the spigot post and coiled.
- The last gardener to leave must lock the gate; the gate must be locked when the garden is unattended.
- Tools and equipment of the SACG may not be removed from the garden area, and must be cleaned and properly stored in the shed after use. Items stored in the shed are for common use.

## Plant Diseases And Pests:

- Gardeners must monitor and immediately treat plant diseases and pests. (See binder in shed for fact sheets on identification and treatment). Gardeners must also report diseases and pests to a Garden Committee member or by email [sacg@thesay.org](mailto:sacg@thesay.org).
- In some cases, the Committee will provide specific instructions on treatment and may remove plants for pest and disease control.
- Infected plants may not be composted and must be disposed of off-site.

## Composting:

Composting discarded plants is encouraged to recycle nutrients. Follow these instructions:

- Do not compost diseased plants, tomato fruits, weeds with seeds, straw or hay.
- Shred discarded plants into 3 inch pieces.
- All non-compostable waste must be taken offsite.
- 4. THERE IS NO WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICE AT THE GARDEN.**

## Good Garden Etiquette:

All Gardeners must maintain good conduct and civil behavior at all times. **Please refrain from:**

- Entering, watering, and taking items from another Gardener's plot, unless given explicit permission to do so.
- Verbally or physically abusive behavior.
- The use of amplified devices and noise.
- Smoking
- Bringing Pets to the Garden.
- Growing or using illegal substances (this will result in immediate expulsion and revocation of the garden plot).



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**ACHIEVE**  
ACTION COMMUNITIES FOR  
HEALTH, INNOVATION &  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Gardeners meeting the following household income levels are eligible for a reduced Summit ACHIEVE Community Garden plot fee of \$25 and reduced \$25 refundable security deposit.

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income*
1	\$23,540
2	\$31,860
3	\$40,180
4	\$48,500
5	\$56,820
6	\$65,140
7	\$73,460
8	\$81,780
For each additional person, add	\$8,320

\* Maximum annual income levels are based on 200% of 2016 federal poverty guidelines, as set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

I certify that my household income does not exceed the maximum annual income level set forth above and I can provide documentation to support this statement. I am aware that providing false information will result in immediate forfeiture of the garden plot and garden plot fee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Gardener (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date