



Stettler Community Gardens Application Process:

1. Review the Plot Holder Agreement and Community Garden Guidelines
2. Contact the Parks and Leisure Services Office (403-742-4411) to request a Community Garden Plot. Provide the necessary information about the Primary Plot Holder, indicating the contact information (name, phone number, active email address, etc.), as well as all other people that might be sharing responsibility. Indicate the desired garden plot size.
3. It is very important for you to provide both a valid, regularly-used email address and/or a cell phone number so that you can be easily contacted by email or text regarding changes, important dates, etc.
4. Complete registration and payment through the Parks office.
5. Once your application has been processed, and once the application period closes, you will be notified to confirm your final plot number and provide any additional details.

Application Period = April 1 – 30 (Annually)

Any questions or comments can be directed to the Stettler Community Gardens Committee.

Rob Spencer – Chair – Stettler Community Gardens Committee
stettlercommunitygardens@gmail.com

NOTE FOR 2020 GARDEN SEASON:

There are a number of factors that will impact both the total number (and total area) of plots available for rent, the length of the garden season and the services available for garden users. We ask that applicants and gardeners be patient and flexible, as these factors are beyond the control of the committee.

- 1) The quality of the soil and the weediness of various plots is of concern to us, as it impacts the success and satisfaction of the community garden users.
 - a. As such, for 2020, we will be permanently closing a portion of Community Garden #1 (by the schools), replacing the garden plots with a clover ground cover that will be maintained.
 - b. Approximately 30-50% of the garden area in Community Garden #1 and CG#2 will be kept fallow (unplanted) to allow for regular and vigorous weed control of that area. Fallowed areas will be switched in 2021 with planted areas from 2020, hopefully achieving a net improvement of soil in each garden.
- 2) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions, we will not be providing tools for communal use by gardeners. This includes hoes, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows and watering cans. Gardeners will have to provide their own tools.
- 3) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, it is unclear whether Town of Stettler staff will be able to provide water tank refills, however this will be considered as time passes.

It is the collective responsibility of all community gardeners to help inform the public about the private/public mix of the space in the gardens (e.g. private gardens versus community orchards). The Stettler Community Gardens Committee requests the patience and understanding of community residents and community garden participants in all aspects of the garden.





Stettler Community Gardens – Plot Holder Agreement

Section I: What We Do

1. Town of Stettler will provide initial soil preparation and tilling activities to the overall garden area. Initial spring tilling will be performed by the end of April, **ground conditions and weather permitting**. As much as possible, tilling will be completed as close to opening day as possible.
2. Gardeners are assigned garden plots on a first-come, first-served basis (according to their requested plot size – as much as possible).
3. Available plots will be assigned by the Stettler Community Garden Committee in early May and gardeners will be notified with their plot number and when gardens will be open for planting. **Opening dates are subject to ground and weather conditions**. Please refer to the tentative calendar for general dates. Individual plots will be staked and marked prior to the garden opening.
4. The site is rototilled by town staff prior to staking and marking of the plots. Additional rototilling is not provided, however gardeners may rototill their assigned plot area prior to their planting. The amount of time between final rototilling, staking and gardener access varies based on weather, etc.
5. Normally, tools and water are provided. NOTE – in 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions, these will not be provided.
6. The Stettler Community Gardens Committee will cancel this agreement if the gardener does not perform the work within the guidelines indicated.
7. A calendar of events relating to the garden will be provided on the Town of Stettler website and posted at the community gardens. All gardeners are encouraged to volunteer to help to generally maintain the site.

Section II: What You Do

1. Provide contact information and fee payment (\$5 for 10x10 foot plot; \$10 for a 10x22 foot plot; \$20 for a 22x22 foot in-ground plot or a 3x8 foot raised bed plot) – Contact Town of Stettler Parks Office to arrange payment
2. If your contact information changes during the course of the growing season – please notify the Parks Office as soon as possible.
3. You are required to perform maintenance of the assigned garden plot and mulched walkway around your plot, and plot borders. This includes, but is not limited to, planting, watering and weeding. Weedy plots are subject to warning and cancellation.
4. Gardeners with plots that are adjacent to the outer garden edges can assist with maintaining the borders.
5. Gardeners may request assistance with maintenance, etc. (e.g. you will be away for a period of time), if required. Please contact the Parks Office and we will attempt to match volunteers with gardeners, if possible. There may also be volunteers available that could help with planning your garden space, if it is requested.
6. You are required to respect all Community Garden guidelines that are provided – failure to conform to this requirement may result in forfeiture of the site (current year) and restriction of access in future years.
7. We hope that all gardeners will be active ambassadors and advocates for the sites, including helping people to understand the limitations for public access, how the gardens are run, etc. If you notice that someone is doing something in the gardens that is contrary to the guidelines or behavior, please take the time to talk to them.
8. Questions, concerns or issues should be directed to the Parks Office.





Section III (Please print clearly)

Primary Plot Holder _____

Other Applicant(s) _____

Address: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Telephone Number (home): _____ **(work):** _____
(cell): _____

ACTIVE EMAIL (encouraged): _____

Signature of Applicant(s): _____

PAST GARDENER?

Size of Plot Required (check one):

NOTE: Limit of 1 plot per family unit – additional plots may be requested and will be allocated based on availability

10x10 (\$5)

10x22 (\$10)

22x22 (\$20)

3x8 Raised bed (\$20)

PLOT NUMBER ASSIGNED (by Committee):

Garden Location:

SITE #1 (by Schools) SITE #2 (off Hwy 56) SITE #3 (NE end of Town)

Signature of Community Gardens Committee: _____

Application Date: _____

Fee Paid: YES NO





Guidelines for Gardeners

Gardeners are asked to observe the following guidelines in order to work together or next to each other in relative harmony. Please be courteous in all interactions and work together to resolve any disagreements. Questions or concerns should be brought to the Stettler Community Gardens Committee.

1. **NO** planting will be allowed until **ALL** plots are staked and numbered.
2. Garden plots are rented per season.
3. Gardeners must stay within plot boundaries and perform regular maintenance of the assigned garden plot and adjacent area (pathways).
4. Water tanks are provided at the edge of the community garden area for use by plot holder gardeners only. **No attachments** (hoses, etc.) are allowed onto the water tanks. **Bucket or water cans only please.** Watering cans are provided for use. Please be judicious in the amount of water that is used, as quantities are limited. – **NOTE = 2020 – Water is not provided due to COVID-19**
5. Gardeners should ensure that tools are looked after and put back into the garden shed and the shed is **locked after use.** - **NOTE = 2020 – tools are not provided due to COVID-19**
6. The use of all pesticides, herbicides or DDT/derivatives by plot holders is strictly **PROHIBITED.**
7. Gardeners may use netting, chicken wire or other types of plant supports for climbing or taller plants but these must be removed from the site by **no later than October 1** annually.
8. The use of metal pegs and wire for boundary markings is prohibited. The use of wooden or bamboo stakes is permitted.
9. Gardeners are to dispose of weeds and plant materials in the compost area(s) located at the site.
10. Pets must be leashed and are **NOT** allowed in the garden plots. Please contain pets outside the garden plots. Please 'stoop 'n' scoop' after your pet.
11. Gardeners should complete **ALL** harvesting before **October 1.** The plant tops and other compostable waste should be placed into the compost area(s) or can be spread on the soil surface for incorporation.
12. Access to the garden site is by foot only; vehicles must remain on the street, in designated parking places.
13. Gardeners are requested to notify the Parks Office if they are abandoning their garden plot (however, we'd prefer it if you stuck with it)
14. In the event of plot abandonment or complaints of neglected plot(s), gardeners will be contacted by a Stettler Community Garden Committee member and be advised of the concerns. If the site is not improved within four (4) days of notification, the piece of land will be forfeited and no refund provided. Gardeners that fail to conform to guidelines or forfeit their plot may not be allowed to rent a plot in future years.
15. The Town of Stettler reserves the right to till any garden plot for the protection of the community (in the event of pest damage, excessive weeds or growth of illegal plant material).
16. The Town of Stettler and the Stettler Community Gardens Committee will not be held liable for any damages or injury arising out of the work performed.
17. Ambiguity or interpretation of the guidelines falls to the discretion of the Stettler Community Gardens Committee.