



**Parma Lutheran Church
COMMUNITY GARDEN
2024 Rules, Expectations, & Application Form**



Thank you for your interest! Participation is OPEN to all church members and anyone from the Community (no restrictions). Our family-friendly organic garden welcomes the participation of youth who are supervised by a parent or guardian. Primary applications must be 18 years or older. Gardeners are expected to primarily grow food and donate roughly 10% of their harvest to the on-site Parma Hunger Center.

1. LAYOUT – Leased individual plots are 4' wide by 12' long. Optional fence plots are 1' wide by 5' long and are useful for climbing plants. Paths are covered in wood chips. Four dedicated Hunger Center plots occupy the center of the Garden. A perimeter fence excludes deer and rabbits. Additional features: rainwater storage system, tool sheds, sandbox, swing, bench, locked gate, framed plots.
2. PLOT ASSIGNMENTS – First year gardeners are typically limited to one plot. Plots are assigned after the application form and payment are received. Returning gardeners who did not properly maintain or clean up their plots the previous year may have their applications placed on hold while preference is given to new applicants.
3. GARDEN ACCESS – Registered gardeners are given the combination to the gate lock and may enter at any time. Keep the combination confidential. If you are the last one out, lock the gate after putting away any tools or supplies you have used. Please instruct children to walk on the pathways and respect the plots of others. Pets are not allowed in the Garden at any time.
4. VOLUNTEER HOURS – Each gardener pledges **2 hours monthly** towards the common good of the garden in addition to time spent on their own plot(s). Qualifying tasks include but are not limited to weeding common areas, hedge trimming, spreading wood chips and topsoil, serving on a Harvest Team, and tending/watering dedicated Hunger Center plots.
5. EQUIPMENT – Sprinkling cans and some tools (shovels, rake, trowels, garden fork, loppers, pruners, etc.) are available for shared use. Gardeners should bring their own gloves.
6. PLANTING – Gardeners provide their own plants and seeds. Choose plants that will not shade other plots (no corn or tall sunflowers) or block paths when mature. Stake or cage plants needing support. The Garden provides black plastic mulch (optional) for weed control or gardeners may choose to use an organic mulch. Plots must be 50% planted by June 1st and fully planted by June 15th or be forfeited without reimbursement of plot fees.
7. FERTILIZERS (plant food) – Both organic and synthetic products are allowed.
6. STRUCTURES – Supports such as stakes, tomato cages, and trellises are permitted within plot boundaries, as are low tunnels and floating row covers.
8. WATER – Use sprinkling cans and the water provided in the rain barrels when available. Otherwise use city water from the water bib on the side of the building. Notify a Garden leader of any leaks or problems with the storage system.
9. PLOT MAINTENANCE & NEGLECTED PLOTS – Come regularly to weed, water, prune, stake, mulch, and harvest. Remove plants that are dead or spreading diseases to other plots. Negligent gardeners may be directed to forfeit their plots if warnings are not heeded.
10. WASTE – Add healthy cut or chopped plant waste to the compost bin. Do not compost weeds, squash or tomato vines. Discard any inorganic waste (plastics, metal) in a trash container along with weeds and diseased plant material.
11. ORGANIC GARDENING– Protect pollinators and other beneficial organisms in the garden by following organic gardening practices. Herbicides (weed killers) are prohibited, including Round-up and Preen. The use of floating row covers to prevent feeding damage and egg-laying is encouraged. Organic pesticide options include Neem oil, diatomaceous earth, and GreenCure. Most tobacco products carry the tobacco mosaic virus, which is readily transmitted to tomato and pepper plants. All tobacco products must remain outside the garden, and if you have used tobacco products, you must wash your hands before entering the Garden.

12. HARVESTING – Our goal as a no-waste garden is to have all healthy produce find its way to someone’s plate. If you choose to do all your own timely harvesting and donating, place a “Do Not Harvest” marker (in supply cabinet) near the base of your plot ID marker. Harvest Teams are authorized to pick from unmarked plots, looking for produce that would otherwise become overripe or inedible if left until the next inspection. Harvest Teams check unmarked plots prior to Tuesday and Friday food distributions at the Hunger Center. 100% of produce from dedicated Hunger Center plots is donated.

13. DONATION PROCEDURES: Weigh and package donations and place in a cooler. The scale and record sheet are in the storage tote. Help yourself to shared packaging supplies when you harvest. You are encouraged to donate recycled berry clamshells brought from home. Produce is hand-delivered to the Hunger Center on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings.

14. FALL CLEAN-UP – Begin cleanup in September if planting winter cover crops. Clear plots of all annual food crops no later than the first Saturday in November.

15. PARKING – Park along Tuxedo or in the church parking lot on the west side of the building.

16. NOISE – Keep to a minimum during church office hours.

CONTACTS:

Parma Lutheran Church
5280 Broadview Rd.
Parma, OH 44134

Office hours 9 am – 1 pm Tues.-Fri.
Office phone 216-351-6376
ParmaLutheranGarden@gmail.com

GARDEN DIRECTOR

Brett Iafigliola, P.E.
440-821-9123
iafigliola@gmail.com

CO-MANAGER & COMMUNICATIONS

Marilyn Molzan
440-376-5587
mmolzan@att.net (preferred contact)

CO-MANAGER & HARVEST TEAM COORDINATOR

Ruth Arnold Moadlo
440-241-1650
Ruthdog329@att.net

Please make plot fee checks payable to Parma Lutheran Church
Write “Community Garden” in memo line.

Thank you!



Plot #: _____

2024 Application Form Parma Lutheran Church Community Garden

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone #: _____ Best time to call: _____

Cell phone #: _____ Able to receive text messages? _____ on Facebook? _____

Email address: _____

Individual Plots are 4 feet wide by 12 feet long

Optional: Fence Plots are 1 foot wide by 5 feet long (may grow peas, cucumbers, etc. using fence as a trellis)

Please make checks payable to: *Parma Lutheran Church*, memo line: *Community Garden*

Submit plot fee check along with application form. Fee is refundable if plot(s) not assigned.

Number of plots:

- _____ \$20 PLC Members *if paid by first Sunday in April*
- _____ \$30 non-PLC Members *if paid by first Sunday in April*
- _____ \$25 PLC Members *if paid after first Sunday in April*
- _____ \$35 non-PLC Members *if paid after first Sunday in April*
- _____ \$3 Fence plot *optional*
- _____ \$0 Hunger Center plots. *Dedicated volunteer. All food is donated to Hunger Center.*

**Unless an exception is granted, new applicants are limited to one main plot. No restrictions on fence plots.*

*** On a case-by-case basis, plot fees may be reduced/waived due to financial needs or for a commitment of at least a 50% harvest contribution to the Hunger Center. Contact the Garden Coordinator to apply.*

If possible, I would like plot(s) # _____ or to be near (list name): _____

By marking this checklist and signing below, I agree that I will:

- Volunteer at least **two hours per month** to the upkeep of common areas in the garden.
- Donate roughly 10% of my plot's harvest to the Parma Hunger Center.
- Harvest or allow the food I grow to be harvested while it is still edible.
- Follow organic gardening practices and the rules listed on the previous page to the best of my ability.

LIABILITY WAIVER: I agree to hold harmless the owner of the land (Parma Lutheran Church) and the Parma Lutheran Community Garden, its leaders and participants 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: _____

\$ _____ received on (Date) _____ Check # _____ Cash

Receipt acknowledged by (signature): _____