



GARDEN OF EATEN COMMUNITY GARDEN *Guidelines for 2016*

Welcome to our community of gardeners!

The Garden of Eaten Community Garden is an organic garden located on land in front of the rectory at St. Maximilian Kolbe parish in Scarborough. The parish provides the land and the water supply, as well as sponsor and manage the garden through the Community

Garden sub-committee of the Social Justice and Catholic Service Committee of our cluster of parishes. The community garden relies on the cooperative efforts of everyone, community garden plot owners as well as parishioners at large, to maintain the garden. The better we work together, the more we all prosper from the enriched community we create.

Gardeners tend their own individual plots and collectively maintain the paths, fence and water system. In addition to individual plots, space is set aside to grow produce for families in Scarborough, South Portland, or Cape Elizabeth with limited resources and for local food pantries - the South Portland Food Cupboard and Scarborough Food Pantry. Garden volunteer leaders coordinate this wonderfully worthy program, and other gardeners pitch in to plant, tend, harvest and deliver, or to donate extra vegetables from their own plots.

Garden of Eaten Sub-Committee Members

Paul & Nancy Chamberlain (Chairperson)	799-3632	prtc65@gmail.com
Joe & Mary Capobianco (Master Gardener)	510-1786	grandpacap@yahoo.com
Mike & Fran Audet	883-9110	maudet@maine.rr.com
Dick Goulet (Grand Knight)	774-8334	rgoulet@maine.rr.com
Jim Welch	799-0333	jwelchii@maine.rr.com
John McDonough (Carpenter)	(781) 247-3068	johnnymac2006@aol.com
Susan Curtis	233-2478	scurtis2@maine.rr.com
Helen Lyons	899-8239	hellyanthus@yahoo.com

Membership and Benefits

1. Fees and Assignment of Plots

\$5 for each 2' X 4' plot

\$25 for each 10' X 12' plot

\$20 contribution toward extra loam and compost, if necessary.

Fees can be paid by check made out to "St. Maximilian Kolbe" and mailed to:

Nancy Chamberlain

151 Pilgrim Road

South Portland, ME 04106.

2. Deadline

New gardeners can contact Nancy Chamberlain to purchase a plot. First come, first served. Gardeners who participated last season and wish to renew their plots must pay the applicable fees by May 1st. Plots not paid for by this date may be considered vacant and assigned to another gardener.

3. Assignment of available plots

The garden is open to parishioners of St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Bartholomew, and St. John & Holy Cross with a maximum of one large plot and 3 small plots per gardener. Assignment of plots to new gardeners is first come, first served and then based on the order of the waiting list. Second plots for existing gardeners are offered to those who have informed the committee of their interest, and will be assigned on an alternating basis with new gardeners when plots become available.

4. Garden Plots

Plots are 10' X 12' or 2' X 4'. Paths are laid out between each plot to provide access for wheelbarrows and hoses. Within each plot, gardeners may plant as they wish provided their crops don't obstruct the paths or wander into other gardeners' plots.

5. Benefits

The annual fee covers:

- Water – provided by St. Maximilian Kolbe parish.
- Bulk purchase of lime, compost, mulch, organic fertilizer, and other organic products for gardeners to use on their own plots.
- Compost area for disposal of garden wastes.
- Fence around the garden.
- Waterline and hose system.
- Wheelbarrows and hand tools (in garden shed);

- Garden shed for storage of bulk soil amendments, supplies, posting of information on bulletin board. Gardeners may store small tools in the shed (at their own risk).

Rules and Responsibilities

- 1. Gardeners are required to contribute to the operation of the garden beyond maintaining their own plots and adjacent paths.** All gardeners are required to participate in a spring work day to prepare the garden, and again in the fall for clean-up. We'll schedule a number of workdays to accomplish the spring and fall tasks so that everyone can attend.

In addition to the workdays, each gardener is required to take responsibility for another community garden duty. Examples of these duties are:

- Helping with the community plots – prepping soil, planting, watering, weeding, harvesting, delivering produce
- Weeding a section along the water line between the faucet posts for the season
- Other jobs that need attention during the season

Please note that gardeners with 2 plots will be required to take responsibility for 2 garden duties.

- 2. All gardens in the Garden of Eatin' Community Garden must be ORGANIC.** Only organic fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides are permitted. Labels on permitted organic materials must state that the product is 100% organic and carry an OMRI or NOP certification. A list of acceptable and prohibited products can be found on the website. Seedlings do not have to be organic, however we urge gardeners to select their seedlings carefully. Broadway Gardens in South Portland carries organic seedlings.
- 3. There is no smoking in or around the garden.** Tobacco mosaic virus, which can be carried on smoker's hands, is a serious threat to tomatoes and other plants.
- 4. Please monitor small children** in the garden so they don't damage neighbors' plots.

- 5. No pets are allowed in the garden at any time under any circumstances** – please tie them outside the garden or leave them at home.
- 6. Gardeners are responsible for working their plots by mid-June and tending them throughout the season.** Any gardener who will not be using his or her plot for any reason is requested to let Susan Curtis know as soon as possible, so that the plot can be reassigned in time for a new gardener to plant.
- 7. Gardeners are responsible, together with adjacent gardeners, for keeping paths around all sides of plots weeded throughout the season.**
- 8. Plots should be planned so that trailing plants don't spread into paths or into other gardeners' plots.** Tall crops (pole beans, sunflowers, corn) should be situated on the south side or middle of your plot so as not to shade other gardeners' plots. Please plant the shorter sunflower varieties; the taller plants invariably will shade neighboring plots.
- 9. Gardens must be "put to bed" by the end of October or two weeks after a killing frost or when you are no longer growing and using produce from your plot**– i.e. remove non-biodegradable mulch, weeds and dead plant material (to prevent spread of plant diseases). Gardeners who will be using the plot the following year may leave perennial plants in place.
- 10. A gardener who will be away or unable to tend his or her garden for an extended time should arrange help from a friend or another gardener and/or contact Susan Curtis.** Plan to introduce yourself to your garden-neighbors so that you can help each other out during the season.
- 11. If gardeners will be away when crops will be ready to pick, please notify Susan Curtis so that your plot can be picked and the produce donated to a local food pantry.** Your plants will do better if the ripe produce is picked on a regular basis.
- 12. If a gardener is not following these Guidelines, the gardener will be notified and asked to correct the problem within two weeks.** Failure to do so means forfeiture of the garden plot during the current garden season with no refund of fees.

13. If there is a serious pest, viral or fungal problem in the garden, gardeners will be asked to more carefully and regularly monitor their plants, so as to contain the problem as soon as possible. When a gardener can't be reached or isn't able to come and deal with the problem, members of the Garden Committee may have to remove diseased or infested plants. Obviously this is a very difficult choice to make, but it's the only way to protect other plants.

14. Any gardener who has questions about the Guidelines is encouraged to contact a Community Garden Committee member. Be a good neighbor! If you keep your plot(s) and paths well tended, the entire garden will be healthier, your neighbors will be happier, and you'll make an invaluable contribution to the "community", which is at the heart of our garden. Welcome!

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THESE GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE – THEY WILL ALSO BE POSTED ON OUR WEBPAGE
<http://www.saintmax.com/community-garden> along with other useful garden information such as articles on how to plant and nurture various types of produce, as well as how to identify and deal with pests and diseases.

I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS GARDEN OF EATEN AND OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS, INJURY OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS. GARDEN OF EATEN ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR PERSONS OR PROPERTY IN THE GARDENS.

BY SIGNING THESE GUIDELINES, YOU AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT.

Signature: _____

Date: _____