

About the Haverstraw Community Garden 2014

The Haverstraw Community Garden is a combination community/school garden in Haverstraw having its first growing season in 2010, established as a multipurpose site - gardening for local families, intergenerational initiatives, and for learning projects for students attending Haverstraw Elementary School.

The Community Partners involved in this garden project are: The Village of Haverstraw, North Rockland Central School District, Rockland County Department of Health, Cornell Cooperative Extension, the North Rockland Garden Consortium, and the Haverstraw Community Garden Committee which has the duty of enforcing rules and making decisions for the garden. It has the authority to resolve conflicts, including refusing a plot to a gardener or dismissing a current gardener.

The garden is a 150' X 50' piece of land that is owned by the North Rockland Central School District and is located on the property of the Haverstraw Elementary School between the school and the Haverstraw Community Center.

The garden will allow over 20 families to rent plots on a seasonal basis for personal use. Gardeners receive a plot of approximately 5' x 15' for use during a garden season, use of a few shared common tools, access to water, and a supportive environment for learning about gardening and meeting neighbors!

It is a space where friends and neighbors can grow vegetables, fruits, flowers, and relationships; and a place of recreation, education, and connection. Gardeners are expected to tend their plots and contribute some volunteer hours to help keep the garden clean and neat.

Also, approximately 30 plots are available for school student use. The school identifies two teachers that will oversee school garden activities. These may include using the Junior Master Gardener curriculums in science classes, creating arts projects for the garden and using the garden as an environment for physical activity and exploring nature. In addition, the school and community center will work collaboratively to care for and maintain the school garden plots in conjunction with an intergenerational initiative with the Village's senior program.

Important Dates

- All gardeners are required to submit a registration form and fees by April 1st of each calendar year. For new members: A remittance of \$30 (\$15 for the plot plus \$15 key deposit = \$30). For returning members in good standing: If you have kept your key from the previous season just remit \$15 for the plot. Upon successfully cleaning and closing your plot at the end of the season, your \$15 key deposit will be returned upon request to you by December 1st. Should you lose your key, a fee of \$5 will be deducted from your deposit. Each gardener must apply each year for a plot. Returning gardeners will be given first preference and permitted to keep the same plot if they wish. Only one plot per address is allowed unless plots are still available after opening day.
- The Garden opens on or about April 15th on a Sunday and closes in November on the Sunday after Veterans Day.
- All gardeners are expected to attend the annual Opening Day Meeting.

- You must start working your plot by May 15th. If you do not, it will be considered abandoned. You will receive a reminder phone call within 5 days. A letter will then be mailed to you on May 25th. If no other arrangements have been discussed with the garden coordinator, the plot will be reassigned on June 1st. If meeting that deadline is impossible for you, please talk with one of the coordinators. There are no refunds on abandoned plots.
- By November 15th all plants and roots must be removed from your garden plot. If your garden plot is not cleaned out by this date, you forfeit your deposit and risk not being assigned a plot in the future.
- Social events are scheduled throughout the season. Please plan to attend to get to know your fellow gardeners and assist with garden upkeep and special projects. The dates/times can be changed by consensus.
 1. Pot Luck – Sunday June 22 at 6 PM (always 1 week after Father’s Day)
 2. Pot Luck – Saturday Sept 13 at 4 PM
 3. Cleanup & Pot Luck – Sunday Nov 23 at 1 PM (always Sunday before Thanksgiving)
