

Romulus Senior/Community Garden

(West of Romulus Senior Center, 36525 Bibbins Street)

Application

Today's Date: _____

I am filling out this application today on behalf of (choose one):

- Myself
- My Family (single family)
- My garden group (more than one family working in a single garden)

GARDEN INFORMATION

Family's Name (or) Garden Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of individuals involved: _____

What will you be growing in your garden?:

- Vegetables
- Herbs
- Fruit
- Flowers

What will you be doing with your crop? _____

Please check here if you would like to donate to our local Food Bank



ADDITIONAL GARDNER CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please provide us with contact information for people who work with you or help you in your garden. This information will not be shared with anyone, although we may contact them with information or if any issues arise.

Name: _____ Group: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Please check all that apply: Garden with you Supports your garden

Name: _____ Group: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ P

Please check all that apply: Garden with you Supports your garden

Name: _____ Group: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Please check all that apply: Garden with you Supports your garden

(Please attach an additional sheet if you have more contacts.)

I have read and understand the requirements of the Senior Community Garden and will abide by them:

Print name: _____ Signature: _____

(Contact Person)

Romulus Community Garden

Program Overview

Thank you for choosing to grow with us. The Romulus Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is pleased to work with the City of Romulus, local citizens and volunteers to continue our community garden.

The garden is located just west of the Senior Center on Bibbins Street across from the Romulus Towers senior housing complex.

The first sixteen (16) applicants will receive a raised garden box to plant, of those only two are available for physically challenged individuals so sign up early. Sign-up is at the Senior Center, applications are being accepted until **May 16, 2022**. Applicants must sign up in person.

Planting will begin on Thursday, MAY 19th at 4:00 pm.

The gardeners, chosen for this year's garden boxes, will have to provide the necessary tools, preferred plants and food for their crops. (Some plants may be available through donations from Blocks Greenhouses but please don't depend on it)

Each year a new group of gardeners could be chosen. You will be able to garden two years in a row if we have no other applicants.

Please be reminded that we are learning along with you. If you have gardened before, we are open to input or help. Contact information will be listed below.

The Eagle Scouts from Boy Scout Troop #872 may be available to assist with planting and watering if needed.

TOOLS

Tools should be supplied by each Gardner and may include: Shovels, spades, rakes, work gloves and, watering cans.

RAISED GARDEN BED PREPARATION

The Raised garden boxes have been filled with commercial soil but you may want to mix in generous amounts of organic humus to improve the soil structure and drainage. Compost, peat moss, well rotted manure or processed manure (the bagged stuff) is all good forms of organic humus. Raised beds are easier to work so the soil does not get compacted as easily. (Make sure to level the area first to make a flat base for starting your planting.)

PLANNING

Take a little time in planning, before you decide which crops you want to grow. You may want to base the types of vegetables and number of plants on the eating habits of you or your family. Remember that some plants require more space than your box may allow. For instance, for a family of two, here is a general outline (*These are very generous suggestions*): *(www.humeseeds.com)

Beets	- a row 5 to 7 feet long
Broccoli/Brussels' Sprouts	
/Cabbage	-5 to 7 plants
Carrots	- a row 10 to 15 feet long
Lettuce	- a row 5 to 7 feet long
Spinach	- a row 5 to 10 feet long
Tomatoes	- 5 to 7 plants

Some plants such as pumpkins/squash, melons and other wide spreading plants may not be suitable for the 3ft x 8ft garden boxes. Check with our local **Block's Fruit Market** for suggestions or call (734) 941-9388.

Next you need to decide where they fit best in the garden layout: the taller varieties, like peas and beans, should be placed at the north end to prevent shading of the smaller crops. In the center of the vegetable garden area, plant the medium sized crops such as cabbage, cauliflower or tomatoes and in the very southern end plant the lower growing plants such as radishes, carrots, beets, lettuce and onions. Consider making a layout of your garden bed to help plan it out. Graph paper works well for a quick and easy sketch of your garden plan.

PLANTING

When you begin planting crops into the beds, the taller varieties should be placed nearer the north to prevent shading of the smaller crops. These boxes have been aligned in a North/South orientation to take full advantage of the sun since most gardens need at least 5 to 8 hours of full sun. Ideally, plants in a raised bed garden are spaced just far enough apart to avoid crowding but close enough to shade weeds. Follow the planting instructions for the plants you are using, your personal experience or follow the PLANT SPACING CHART which is attached.

MULCH

This year we are encouraging the "Square Foot Gardening" program and have filled the boxes with a special mixture called "Mel's Mix" and **added mulch will not be needed.** Soil compaction can reduce crop yields up to 50 percent so this year we are trying this new method by gardener and author, Mel Bartholomew. This method will also help conserve water and reduce the number of weeds in your garden box.

STAKING

Tall plants such as tomatoes or beans will need to be staked.

WATERING

Watering is your responsibility. The soil in raised beds tends to dry out more quickly than ground level; therefore watering more often may be needed. Plants that are grown closer together result in more moisture for crops and less weed growth. When you are applying water to elevated raised gardens, it is often better to soak the beds rather than sprinkling, which is more likely to spread diseases if the foliage stays excessively wet.

A rain barrel **MAY** be available to capture & store rain water for our gardens. During excessively hot/dry conditions, use of water from the Senior Center will be on a schedule to be determined later.

WEEDING

Raised garden boxes are easier for you to maintain since they are accessible on all sides. They save on space and allow crops to grow closer together, resulting in more moisture for the crops and less weed growth. Please maintain your gardens free of weeds which will take space and nutrients from your plants and that may spread to other gardens. (Please weed around the outside of your boxes also)

FEEDING

Consider the individual needs of your vegetables and if you choose to feed your plants use only all natural plant food. Remember you eat what they eat.

PESTICIDES

The use of harsh chemicals or pesticides is NOT PERMITTED.

FENCING

Fencing around your box is optional and at your own expense.

ABANDONMENT OF BOXES

If your garden box is not being cared for the Senior Center staff may, at their discretion, take over the care of the plants and donate any crop to a local food bank.

END OF SEASON CLEAN-UP

We ask all gardeners to clean out their vegetable beds by November 5, 2021 to avoid any charges. (\$10 may be charged to clean your planter after this date.)

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

For more information please call Merrie Druyor, (734) 942-7545 or Rose Swidan at (734) 955-4120.

PLANT SPACING

Extra Large

1 Plant

Placed 12 inches apart:

Broccoli



Large

4 Plants

Placed 6 inches apart:

Leaf Lettuce

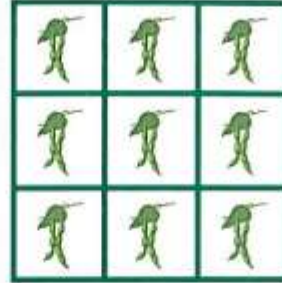


Medium

9 Plants

Placed 4 inches apart:

Bush Bean

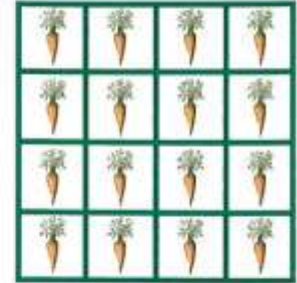


Small

16 Plants

Placed 3 inches apart:

Carrot



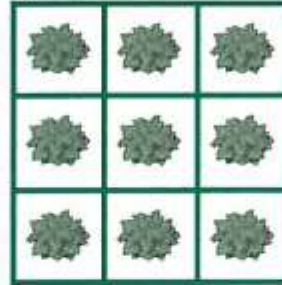
Cabbage



Swiss Chard



Spinach



Radish



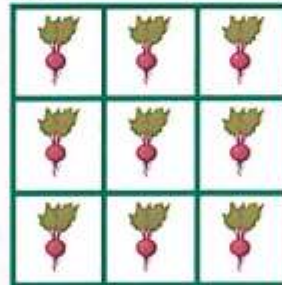
Pepper



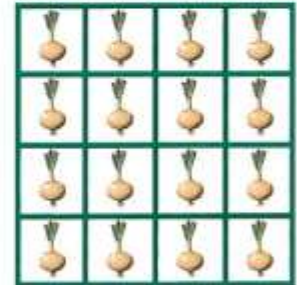
Marigold



Beet



Onion



HERBS	HEIGHT	SPACING PER SQ.FT.	GROWING SEASON	WKS FROM SEED TO EAT
Basil	1-2 ft	small-4/large-1	summer	12
Chive	6-12 in.	16	late spring/summer	16
Cilantro	1-2 ft	1	late spring/summer	5 (leaves) / 12 (seeds)
Parsley	6-12 in.	4	all	14
Oregano	1-2 ft	1	spring/summer/fall	16
VEGGIE	HEIGHT	SPACING PER SQ.FT.	GROWING SEASON	WKS FROM SEED TO EAT
Eggplant	24-30 in.	1	summer	19
Okra	18-24 in.	1	summer	12
Peas	vine	8	spring/fall	10
Spinach	6-12 in.	9	spring/fall/summer	7
S. Squash	bush	1 per 9 sq. ft.	summer	8
	vine	1 per 2 sq. ft.	summer	8
Tomato	Bush	1 per 9 sq. ft.	summer	17
	Vine	1 per 1 sq. ft.	summer	17