

## 2019 Basalt Community Garden Guidelines and Gardener Commitment and Application Form

1. Garden plots are to be used for growing vegetables and flowers for family use and not for commercial growing. This does not exclude owners of businesses, including gardening businesses from having individual plots for themselves or for their employees so long as it is for their own consumption. If you have excess produce, please share with your family, friends or the local foodbank (yellow marker sticks can be put in your plot beside vegetables you wish to share with fellow gardeners). Charitable and non-profit organizations may have plots so long as there is available space not wanted by families or individuals.

2. The Basalt Community Garden Board (BCGB) will accept applications on a first-come, first-serve basis. The plots are available to all who live and work in the Roaring Fork Valley. Returning gardeners will be allowed to retain their previous season's plots provided **they give verbal commitment to renew by April 1<sup>st</sup> and applications are received by April 30<sup>th</sup>**. New gardeners should submit their applications as soon as possible. Please contact the garden manager, Elyse Hottel at 510.541.8239 or [basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com) with questions and for clarification.

Standard plots are 80 square feet. There are a limited number of smaller, raised ADA plots available. Gardeners can request larger or additional plots if available. It is important to contain the garden in your space; plants should not be allowed to invade or ramble into the paths. Any wood, stone, etc., borders erected must be within the plot and not intrude into the paths.

3. It is vital to the garden's success that everyone contributes some time to caring for the garden. All gardeners are expected to contribute a minimum of four hours toward the maintenance of the garden, preferably on a volunteer work day. A brief orientation to the garden will be available for new gardeners on such days to ensure that everyone has knowledge of systems such as watering, compost, etc. **Gardeners will sign up for their work day when submitting their commitment form. In addition, gardeners are expected to keep the paths on the North and West sides of their plots weed-free throughout the growing season. Gardeners who don't complete a work session or who don't keep their portion of the paths weed-free will forfeit their deposit.** Gardeners are also encouraged to keep the paths to the South and East of their plots weed-free if there are no active gardeners on those sides.

4. Our goal is to have an organic garden. Please check with your local garden center, the CSU master gardeners' website, or neighboring gardeners for organic means of dealing with gardening problems. No pesticides, herbicides or GMO's (genetically modified organisms) are allowed. In the event that an organic solution is not a viable option to a severe problem, an alternative solution can be submitted to the BCGB for consideration.

5. Gardeners are responsible for cultivating, weeding and watering their own plots. Your plot **needs to be in a cultivated state by June 15<sup>th</sup>** out of respect for other gardeners. Plots that appear to be abandoned and full of weeds are subject to reassignment with fees forfeited. Plants need to be confined to the plot and not allowed to ramble or fall over into the paths or other beds. Plants like mint and raspberries that spread by the roots are prohibited.

6. Garden plots may be raised a maximum of twelve inches with the exception of disabled plots.

7. Children are strongly encouraged to respectfully participate in all the joys of gardening. Supervision is important at all times. **Dogs or other pets are strictly prohibited in the garden.** Any dogs brought to the garden must be tied up outside and not allowed to roam.

8. Gardeners are encouraged to walk or bicycle to the garden. With the exception of the disabled spaces by the entry gate, gardeners should park in the Rio Grande Trail parking lot. Thus, after dropping off supplies at the site, please move your vehicle. Also, please keep the **garden gates and shed door closed while in the garden** and secure them when leaving and do not block them while dropping off supplies.

9. Water to the garden is being supplied by the Town of Basalt. It is treated and drinkable. Each individual gardener is expected to water their own plot. Please do not over water. There shall be no unattended watering with the exception of soaker hoses, drip or micro spray systems on battery timers. These need to be set up with water conservation in mind. Check hose and irrigation connections frequently for leaks. Frequent watering is only necessary when starting seeds, after that once or twice a week usually suffices. Ponding on the plot indicates overwatering!

10. Large tools such as shovels, hoes and wheelbarrows are available to all the gardeners to use. Please clean these after use before returning them to the shed. Small tools like trowels and weeders are to be provided by individual gardeners. They are **not** to be stored in the shed; the shed is solely for storage of community tools and no personal items are to be kept there.

11. There is no trash service at the garden and everyone needs to remove all their own trash, including plastic plant containers.

12. Gardeners are not permitted to promote or advocate for goods and services in the confine of the garden. No signs advertising goods and services are permitted in individual plots.

13. Here are a few things to keep in mind to enhance everyone's "community" experience:

- Please do not pluck the fruits of other gardeners' labors (veggies, flowers & fruits) unless they explicitly (yellow sticks) invite you to do so.
- This is an organic community garden, so everyone must refrain from using toxic chemicals, herbicides, pesticides and GMOs.

- If you decorate your garden (we love artistic expression) be sure it doesn't shade or encroach on another gardener's spot.
- Only use manual tools – they are easier on the ears. The only exception to this is small rototillers or machinery brought in by the BCGB for volunteer work days.
- Please pick up after yourself. The only waste to stay in the garden is plant refuse from the garden plots that can be composted.
- Be respectful of your fellow gardeners when listening to music or imbibing in refreshments. Basically, this means don't drink lots of alcohol and if you feel like dancing, at least wear headphones.
- Please do not bring pets into the garden. If you do bring them along, they need to be tied up outside the fence.
- No structures are allowed in the garden, but items like trellises, tomato cages, or other plant supports to help your garden grow are permitted.
- We do not allow invasive plants – including those that spread like mint and raspberries, noxious weeds or marijuana in the garden.
- The garden is open for your enjoyment every day of the gardening season. We just ask that you don't tend your plots between dusk and dawn.

These guidelines are subject to change. You are responsible for checking your email or other garden communications for updated information. To this end, please add [basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com) to your "safe" email list.

**Enjoy the community! Enjoy your produce! Enjoy the season!**

2019  
**COMMITMENT AND APPLICATION FORM**

I have read the Guidelines and agree to abide by them. I understand that my failure to comply with the Guidelines may result in termination and reassignment of garden plots with no fee refund.

I also agree to not hold the Town of Basalt, Pitkin County and the Basalt Community Garden Board (BCGB) liable for any damages to my garden or my person and/or dependents while at the garden or the properties surrounding.

Likewise, in the event damage occurs to the gardens or the surrounding properties due to any negligence on my part, I will accept responsibility.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I am a returning gardener \_\_\_\_ I want to keep my plot \_\_\_\_ I want a different/additional plot \_\_\_\_ I am a new gardener \_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Basalt Community Gardens? \_\_\_\_\_

The 2019 fee schedule is **\$40** for standard plots of 80sqft. Gardens larger than one plot will be assessed at **\$0.50** per square foot. Please note that there will be **no refunds for plot fees** once submitted.

A refundable deposit of **\$100** is required from each plot holder to ensure that the Garden Guidelines are followed, and the community is respected. Deposits will be refunded after the successful completion of a 4-hr volunteer work day or at the end of the season for those who have made alternative arrangements with the garden manager to complete their work commitment. Deposit checks will be held and only cashed as necessary.

**TWO checks, one for the plot(s) (starting at \$40) and one for the deposit (\$100)** should be submitted and accompany the completed application form. Please keep Guidelines for your reference. **Check with garden manager if you are unsure what you owe** or have concerns. **All checks should be payable to the Town of Basalt.**

Please read and initial below:

\_\_\_\_ I have read and understand the rules of the Basalt Community Garden embodied in the Guidelines and agree to 1) abide by the Guidelines, 2) maintain the garden, and 3) keep the paths on the north and west side of my garden free of weeds.

\_\_\_\_ I understand that email is the primary form of communication for the Garden and I agree to add [basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:basaltcommunitygardens@gmail.com) to my safe list.

\_\_\_\_ I understand that I cannot bring pets into the garden area and that any pets outside the garden must be tied up and not allowed to roam free outside the garden.

\_\_\_\_ I agree to use organic gardening best practices

\_\_\_\_ I agree to make every effort to attend a scheduled volunteer work day and participate in work projects at the garden.

*I will attend the work day on (check one):*

(\_\_ Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 9 - 1pm)

(\_\_ Saturday, Jun 1<sup>st</sup>, 9 - 1pm)

(\_\_ Wednesday Evening, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm)

(\_\_ Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 12 - 4pm)

(\_\_ Tuesday Evening, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm)

(\_\_ Other (contact garden manager)

**Note that one evening is only one-half of the required work commitment.** Please contact the garden manager if none of these dates or times will work.

**Submit this page along with 2 checks or money orders payable to The Town of Basalt**

**By Mail:**

Basalt Community Garden  
PO Box 511, Basalt, Co. 81621

**In Person:**

Basalt Community Gardens mailbox  
Basalt Town Hall