

Keene Community Garden Connections Application

2017 Season

Primary Agency _____ Primary Contact _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

If your site is a collaboration of multiple agencies, please provide information on all agencies involved. Use a separate sheet to attach additional agency information as needed.

Agency #2 (If applicable) _____ Contact Name _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

On a separate page, please address the following six (6) questions:

1. Please tell us about your organization and the population that your gardens would serve. Some areas to consider:
 - Who will the gardeners be? Who will eat the produce?
 - How might they benefit from a garden?
 - How many participants do you envision?
 - How will you and your agency recruit participants for involvement in the garden?
 - How will you encourage their active and long-term engagement in the garden?
2. How will you provide vegetable garden maintenance? **Daily** watering and **regular** weeding and harvesting for the duration of the growing season (**May-November**) will help ensure a productive and well cared for garden. We have learned that the gardens are most productive if gardeners will be able to allot 1-5 hours per week spread across multiple days.
3. Describe the land available for gardening. Consider:
 - Space for six, 10x3 ft. raised beds
 - Availability/proximity to water source
 - Sun exposure
 - Access for participants
 - Visibility of garden to general Keene community

*Please note: raised beds can be placed in parking lots, yards, decks, etc.
4. How would gardens fit into current programming at your agency? Are there any issues with staff or participants being away for the summer (summer camps, vacations, etc.)? If complementary programming does not currently exist, explain how it could be developed and supported.
5. What do you envision your gardens and associated programming will look like in five years?
6. In the future, additional funding needs may arise. Would your agency be able to support or secure funding for future garden needs?

Be sure to fill out both sides. Thank you!



I understand that as a recipient of Keene Community Garden Connection funding our agency will:

- **Commit at least 1 staff member and 5 participants** to the project for involvement in garden creation, maintenance, harvest, and educational programming. The more people who are involved from the start, the greater the long term viability.
- Ensure that participants **meet regularly** (e.g. weekly) for garden planning, programming, and maintenance.
- Recruit staff and participants to **attend two 4-hour “Garden Connections” workshops** to be scheduled by participating agencies and CGC. These workshops will be central to your planning and overall sustainability of the gardens.
- Provide **regular garden maintenance** and oversight (*daily watering and regular weeding and harvesting for the duration of the growing season*) to help ensure a productive and well cared for garden.
- Participate in a 2017 “Harvest Fest and Community Sharing” event during the fall season.
- Collaborate with other organizations in the community to provide others with exposure to gardening.
- Participate in ongoing program evaluation as requested by funder.

Primary Agency Director _____
(print name) (signature) (date)

Agency’s Garden Site Coordinator _____
(if different) (print name) (signature) (date)

Thank you for your interest and for applying to become a garden site! Please submit your application (this signed form, plus 1 page response to 6 questions above) to the address below by March 1st.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions at communitygardens@antioch.edu. You can also learn more about Community Garden Connections at our website: www.antiochne.edu/cgc, at our blog: <http://keenecommunitygardenconnections.wordpress.com/> or on Facebook.

PLEASE RETURN BY Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 to:

**Community Garden Connections
Antioch University New England
c/o Libby McCann
40 Avon Street
Keene, NH 03431**

Or:

Email to: communitygardens@antioch.edu

The Gardening Season: What to Expect

Below is a general timeline you can use as a guide for planning your gardens. These dates are based on previous years' experience and are intended to give you a sense of the commitment and expectations for your garden season. For more detailed information of planting and harvesting times visit UNH Cooperative Extension's website at http://extension.unh.edu/resources/category/Home_and_Garden. Don't worry; we will help you through this process!

January – March

- Plan for your garden and recruit interested participants
- Encourage gardener input to inform garden season activities
- Order seeds as feasible (support from CGC staff available for this and following activities as needed)

April

- Attend 1st GC Workshop in early April (e.g., Site Design, Planning for the Season)
- Begin planting indoors (if growing own transplants)
- Attend CGC workshop in late April, possibly early May (e.g., Bed Building & Planting)

May

- Construction of raised beds by early May
- First plantings of cold-tolerant plants

June

- Planting and transplanting after frost is no longer a threat for this area
- Harvest early season crops—peas, spring greens, etc.

July

- Early July: Harvest—lettuces, peas, chard, kale, basil, etc.
- Late July: Harvest—Sungold tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, peas, chard, kale, summer squash, etc.
- Mid - Late July: Second plantings of cold-tolerant plants

August

- Second and third plantings of cold-tolerant plants
- Harvest—tomatoes, lettuce, peppers, kale, summer squash, onions, etc.

September – October (sometimes even later!)

- Additional harvests—tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, peas, chard, kale, summer/winter squash, carrots, beets, etc.
- Plant over-wintering crops—carrots, spinach, garlic, etc.

October – November

- Participate in CGC Fall Harvest Festival
- Plant winter cover crops
- Put garden “to bed”

After planting, your garden will **need daily watering and weekly weeding and harvesting**. You can expect a **weekly time commitment of approximately 5 hours of work**, but we encourage **you and your community to spend as much time in your garden** as you can!