

# SYLVA COMMUNITY GARDEN

## 2014 Garden Application and Information

The mission of the Sylva Community Garden is community service. The purpose of the Sylva Community Garden is to provide fresh produce to those in need and to provide organic gardening space to local growers.

### APPLICATION PROCESS and DEADLINES

- **Existing Gardeners:** **New for 2014** – All existing gardeners will need to complete and submit an application in order to receive consideration for continuing in their existing plot and/or requesting a different plot. If an existing gardener does not submit their application by the deadline, their plot may be reassigned. **The deadline for 2014 applications is February 7<sup>th</sup>.**
- **New Gardeners:** Anyone wishing to receive consideration for being assigned to a plot must complete and submit an application. **The deadline for 2014 applications is February 7<sup>th</sup>.**
- All applicants will be contacted and informed of their plot assignment status by February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- After the deadline, applications will continue to be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Late applicants will receive consideration for being assigned to a plot as long as unassigned plots remain available.

### THE GARDEN COMMITTEE

The Garden Committee is the management body of the garden and is made up of volunteers like you. Committee members are expected to attend monthly meetings, respond to committee discussions in a timely manner (often by e-mail) and manage specific projects (i.e. workdays, workshops, etc.). The committee is also responsible for plot assignment and contacting individual gardeners as needed. Regular monthly committee meetings are open to all gardeners. The committee may also hold closed meetings as needed to deal with sensitive issues and to protect the privacy of individual gardeners.

If you have questions, concerns, ideas, suggestions, or need to contact the Garden Committee for any reason, please email: [sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com). You may also contact individual committee members as shown below.

**The 2014 Garden Committee:** Jennifer Cooper ([jacooper@wcu.edu](mailto:jacooper@wcu.edu), 828-227-2595); Karrie Joseph ([karriejoseph@hotmail.com](mailto:karriejoseph@hotmail.com), 828-337-6961); Leon Graber ([lgraber39@hotmail.com](mailto:lgraber39@hotmail.com)); Adam Bigelow ([bigelownc@gmail.com](mailto:bigelownc@gmail.com)); Charley Barry ([barrycharl@smokymountaincenter.com](mailto:barrycharl@smokymountaincenter.com))

**Find us on Facebook too: “The Sylva Community Garden”**

### HOW TO APPLY FOR A GARDEN PLOT:

Drop off your application at the Community Table in Sylva or send it to:

**Attn: Garden Plot Applications**

**Community Table**

**P.O. Box 62**

**Dillsboro, NC 28725**

or email to

[sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com)

## 2014 Gardening Expectations - KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS

1. In keeping with the mission and purpose of the garden, you are expected to use your plot primarily for the purpose of growing food, and you are expected to share what you grow with people in need. There is a suggested donation of half of your crop to people in need. Donations should be recorded in the notebook inside the box on the picnic table, including what was given, the amount given (by weight), and to whom it was given. A scale is provided for weighing purposes.
2. You are expected to manage your plot using organic methods only. Anything that you use in your plot for fertilizer, soil conditioning, or disease, weed, or pest control purposes must meet organic standards and must be applied in accordance with organic standards. Genetically modified organisms (GMO's) are not permitted. If you are not sure if a product meets organic standards, please ask the Garden Committee or reference OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute, [www.omri.org](http://www.omri.org)).
3. As the caretaker of your plot, you are expected to take care of your plot! Taking care of your plot means visiting the garden frequently so that you are aware of what is happening in your plot and what it needs. It means keeping your plot reasonably weeded and dealing with any insect infestations and plant diseases that may occur. When you neglect your plot, it creates more work for everyone else and is generally bad for morale. If for any reason you will not be able to tend to your plot for an extended period, you are expected to make arrangements for someone else to take care of it during your absence, and you are expected to let the Garden Committee know. If you need help, ask!
4. **You are expected to be available via email (or phone if necessary) in the event that the Garden Committee needs to contact you. You are responsible for providing an email address (or phone number) at which you can reliably be reached. If the Garden Committee finds that you are not meeting any of the above expectations, you will receive an email from [sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:sylvacommunitygarden@gmail.com) (or a phone call from a committee member) informing you of the problem and what you need to do to address it. You may not receive any other notification or warning – the burden is on you to respond promptly (within one week) to any such email, phone call, or voice mail. If you do not respond promptly (within one week), or if the Garden Committee finds that your response to the problem is inadequate or unacceptable, the Garden Committee may terminate your privileges as a plot caretaker.**
5. One gardener per plot is expected to help with 2 workdays during the gardening season. Workdays last for ~3 hours and are necessary to maintain common areas. Workdays will be held throughout the gardening season. A list of scheduled workdays for the season will be sent via email.
6. Let's keep the garden beautiful, functional, and safe. Remember to "pack it in and pack it out." Please do not leave seed trays, plastic pots, plastic bags, tools, etc. lying around. Be mindful that anything that collects water can breed mosquitos, not only a nuisance while gardening but a potential health hazard (encephalitis). Put tools back in the shed, and hang them up where they belong – don't leave tools lying around, and don't leave sharp points sticking up.
7. Please be respectful of others' plots and use the designated paths for going in and out of the garden. Do not enter another's plot without permission of the plot caretaker. Use appropriate set-backs to avoid mature plants encroaching into the paths.

# Sylva Community Garden Application 2014

The purpose of the Sylva Community garden is to provide fresh produce to those in need and to provide organic gardening space to local growers.

1. Please tell us why you would like to have a plot in the Sylva Community Garden.

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2. With whom will you share your organic produce?

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3. I would like to be considered to serve on the Garden Committee. Yes No

4. If there are more applicants than available plots, would you be willing to do any of the following?

Check all that apply:

- I would be willing to share a plot with someone this year.
- I would be willing to work in the communal areas on a regular basis in lieu of a plot this year.
- If no plot is available this year, I would still like to participate in the workdays.

5. Please provide an email address (preferred) or phone number at which you can be reached if the Garden Committee needs to contact you:

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5. The following statements must be checked in order to process the application:

- I forfeit my right to sue to owner of the property. We garden at our own risk.
- I have read and understand the application and expectations and accept the terms as stated for participation in the Sylva Community Garden for the 2014 season.
- I understand that I am responsible for responding promptly (within one week) if the Garden Committee attempts to contact me at the above email address or phone number. I understand further that my privileges as a plot caretaker may be terminated if I fail to respond.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Email or Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date Rec'd by Garden Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Plot assignment: \_\_\_\_\_