



## **Community Garden Guide**

423 and 615 Chestnut Street  
Pottstown, PA 19464



MOSAIC Community Garden Proudly Presented by:

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the MOSAIC Community Garden, a project of the MOSAIC Community Land Trust. We are excited you have chosen to participate in the inaugural year of our community garden!

Community gardens are a great way to promote healthy communities through enhanced nutrition and physical activity while giving participants a chance to get to know their fellow community members.

Whether you are a master gardener or just getting your hands dirty, we are pleased to have you join us in making the MOSAIC Community Garden a success.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The garden plots are located at 423 Chestnut Street and 615 Chestnut in downtown Pottstown.

Approximately 50 plots are available for seasonal rental by the public. Registration for plots will take place through May 15<sup>th</sup> on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Plot sizes are roughly 4' x 10'. A season plot fee of \$35-110 is due at the first orientation meeting. Some scholarships are available. Please contact MOSAIC Garden Manager Laura Washington at 484-300-2410 if you feel you need a scholarship or have any questions regarding the registration process.

Payment for your plot can be made by cash or check. Checks should be made payable to "MOSAIC Community Land Trust." Registration forms are available online at the Garden page of our website at [www.mosaicclt.org](http://www.mosaicclt.org).

Registration for the upcoming growing season is going on now. The forms can be found on our website or you may register and pay for your plot at one of our orientation meetings at the garden or at the Mosaic office, located at 10 S. Hanover Street, Pottstown. Details regarding the days and time of the orientation meetings will be posted on our website as soon as they develop, visit [www.mosaicclt.org](http://www.mosaicclt.org) for additional information. **There are a limited number of plots available; please register early!**

Registration forms and payment may be dropped off or mailed to:  
MOSAIC Community Land Trust  
10 S. Hanover St.  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Gardeners who are in good standing at the end of the season have priority for a plot for the next year; however previous gardeners must register by the last day of February in order to guarantee a garden plot.

### ***When is the growing season?***

The MOSAIC Community Garden is open to participants May 15 – October 15, 2015. The typical growing season in southeastern Pennsylvania is from April-October depending on early and late frosts. Gardeners must have their plots cleared of all plant and non-plant material by 4pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of November, which is November 3, 2012.

### ***What if I have questions or concerns about the garden?***

Master Gardener Gretchen Lea is on MOSAIC's Board and is a Master Gardener advisor to the MOSAIC Garden Committee; she can be reached at 610-367-6773 or 610-716-2162. Or, you may contact Laura Washington, Garden Manager, at 484-300-2410.

### ***End of the Season Clean-up Procedures***

The MOSAIC Community Garden growing season ends at 4 pm on Friday, October 16. All gardeners must have their plots cleared of all plant and non-plant material and returned to a level state.



### ***Animals***

Please be aware that there are many animals such as rabbits, squirrels, raccoons and other wildlife that make Pottstown their home. It might not be unusual to find them snacking at your plot. Fencing, companion planting, and simply planting a little bit extra are helpful preparatory suggestions.

Gardeners and visitors to the garden may want to bring their dogs or other pets. Because people are growing food for human consumption and because pets cannot be watched every single second, **pets are not allowed in MOSAIC Community Garden.**

### ***Vandalism and Theft***


While we hope there are no incidents of vandalism and/or theft, sometimes acts of vandalism and theft do happen. To help prevent this situation, get to know your fellow gardeners. All gardeners will receive a gardener identification card with their name, plot number, and the combination to the garden lock. All gardeners should know their plot number. If you think you see someone tampering with the garden or the lock, get a description and report the incident to the Pottstown police immediately at the non-emergency number (610) 323-1212.

**For all emergencies, dial 9-1-1. The Garden address is 423 and 615 Chestnut Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.**

## GARDENING TIPS & INFORMATION

### *How many plants should you plant?*

Crop	# of plants/person recommended	Average. Yield/ 1 Plant
Beans	15	.38 lbs
Beets	20	
Cabbage	4	2.7 lbs
Carrots	30	
Cucumber	4	
Eggplant	2	
Kale	3	
Lettuce	12	2.2 lbs
Melons	5	
Peas	50	.25 lbs
Pepper	5	
Potato	25	1.6 lbs
Radishes	10	
Spinach	12	
Summer Squash	2	6 lbs
Tomato	2	6 lbs
Winter Squash	2	6 lbs

 From "Plan a Great Garden," *Organic Gardening*, Feb. 1994

### **Tools**

MOSAIC will have some gardening tools available for gardeners to borrow from one of the sheds. All tools must remain within the garden at all times and must be returned to the proper storage place in the shed after each use. Gardeners who have their own tools are encouraged to bring them as there will not be enough tools on busy days when most gardeners are on-site. The following is a descriptive list of tools you might possibly find useful.

**SQUARE-BLADED SPADE:** A good digging tool. If kept sharp, it will slice through any soil with ease.

**FOUR-TINED SPADING FORK:** Ideal for digging and turning over looser soils. Excellent for incorporating manure and other organic material.

**HAND TROWEL:** The most important tool for setting in transplants and planting bulbs. A trowel is properly used with a stabbing motion, concave side toward you.

**IRON RAKE:** Used for leveling out soil in final preparation of the seedbed.

**HOE:** Useful for shallow tilling and cutting off weeds at ground level.

**PITCH FORK:** Helps turn over and aerate soil and mix matter into soil.

**SHOVEL:** Used mainly for scooping soil, not digging. Very useful for moving soil from place to place.

**HOSE NOZZLE:** A nozzle that spreads the water more evenly or allows the water to be dispersed more widely and specifically.

**SHEARS & CLIPPERS:** Great for pruning, trimming, and shaping your plants and garden edge.

**Bed Design**

Here are some ideas for how to space your plants. We will offer workshops and our more experienced gardeners will be available to offer advice and guidance for how to design your garden plot to get the most out of it.

Some plants should be spaced further apart and some closer together. For example: Tomatoes and Kale should be spaced further apart (18 inches) than Onions (3 inches) and Beets (4 inches). Some plants do well when trained to climb upward on supports - cucumber, pole beans. Some are good in wide rows – carrots.

**Sample plan #1 – 4x10** (Cucumbers and pole beans grown up a teepee trellis)

Pepper	Pepper	Lettuce	Lettuce	Spinach	Marigold	Marigold	Carrot	Basil	Beets
Pepper	Pepper	Cuke	Cuke	Spinach	Bean	Bean	Carrot	Basil	Beets
Pepper	Pepper	Cuke	Cuke	Spinach	Bean	Bean	Carrot	Parsley	Beets
Pepper	Pepper	Lettuce	Lettuce	Spinach	Marigold	Marigold	Carrot	Parsley	Beets

**Sample Plan #2 – 4x10** (Cucumber on teepee, bush beans instead of pole and sweet potatoes)

Tomato	Squash	Basil	Chive	S.potato	S.potato	Beans	Beets	Squash	Tomato
		Basil	Chive	Cuke	Cuke	Beans	Beets		
Tomato	Squash	Basil	Parsley	Cuke	Cuke	Beans	Beets	Squash	Tomato
		Basil	Parsley	S.Potato	S.potato	Beans	Beets		

**Sample Plan #3 – 4x4** (bush bean, caged tomato)

Tomato		Basil	Carrot
		Parsley	Carrot
Bean	Bean	Tomato	
Bean	Bean		

**Sample plan #4 – 4x4**

Eggplant	Tomato	Beets
Eggplant		
Eggplant	Tomato	Basil
Eggplant		

**COMPANION PLANTING CHART FOR GARDENING**

<b>CROP</b>	<b>COMPANIONS</b>	<b>INCOMPATIBLE</b>	<b>PESTS REPELLED</b>
Asparagus	Tomato, Parsley, Basil		
Basil	Pepper, Tomato, Marigold	Rue	Flies, Mosquitoes, Thrips
Beans, Bush	Beets, Cabbage, Carrots, Celery, Cucumber, Corn, Eggplant, Irish Potato, Lettuce, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tansy	Onion , Garlic, Chives	
Beans, Pole	Carrots, Corn, Cucumber, Eggplant, Lettuce, Peas, Radish, Summer Savory, Radish	Onion, Beets, Kohlrabi, Sunflower	
Cabbage Family (Broccoli, Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, Kale, Cabbage, Collard, Kohlrabi, Radish, Turnip)	Aromatic Herbs, Beets, Bush Beans, Celery, Onion Family, Chamomile, Spinach, Chard, Mint, Marigold, Thyme	Strawberries, Pole Beans, Tomato , Potato Avoid planting competing root plants with radishes or turnips	Thyme helps control Flea Beetles & Cabbage Butterfly Larva
Carrots	English Pea, Lettuce, Rosemary, Onion Family, Sage, Tomato, Pole Beans, Bush Beans	Dill, competing root plants	Onions and chives help control Carrot Rust Flies
Celery	Onion & Cabbage Families, Tomato, Bush Beans, Spinach, Tomato		
Corn	Irish Potato, Bush Beans, Pole Beans, English Pea, Pumpkin, Cucumber, Squash, Melons	Tomato	Allowing radishes to go to seed helps protect from Corn Borers.
Cucumber	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Corn, English Pea, Lettuce, Onions, Marigold, Sunflowers, Radish	Irish Potato, Aromatic Herbs	Radishes help control Cucumber Beetles.
Eggplant	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Spinach, Marigold		
Lettuce	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Carrot, Cucumber, Onion, Radish, Strawberry		
Onion Family	Beets, Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Lettuce, Cabbage Family, Squash, Strawberries,	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, English Peas	
Parsley	Carrots, Tomato, Asparagus		

Pea, English	Carrots, Radish, Turnip, Cucumber, Corn, Beans	Onion Family, Garlic, Irish Potato	
Peppers	Basil, Okra, Onion		
Potato, Irish	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Corn, Cabbage Family, Marigolds, Horseradish, Eggplant, Coriander	Pumpkin, Squash, Tomato, Cucumber, Sunflower	Potted horseradish, dead nettle or coriander helps repel Colorado Potato Beetles.
Radish	English Pea, Nasturtium, Lettuce, Cucumber	Hyssop	
Spinach	Celery, Eggplant, Cauliflower, Strawberry		
Squash	Radishes, Onion, Mint, Nasturtium, Corn, Marigold	Irish Potato	Mint deters Squash Bugs. Radishes can help protect from Squash Borers.
Strawberry	Bush Beans, Lettuce, Onions, Spinach	Cabbage	
Summer Savory	Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Onions		
Sunflower	Corn, Cucumbers	Potatoes, Pole Beans	
Tomato	Basil, Onion Family, Nasturtium, Marigold, Asparagus, Carrot, Parsley, Cucumber, Mint	Irish Potato, Fennel, Corn	Basil helps control Tomato Hornworms.
Turnip	English Pea	Irish Potato	



# MOSAIC COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES

The following garden rules have been established to not only keep the MOSAIC Community Garden running smoothly and safely, but to assist you in practicing healthy and environmentally sound garden techniques. As a participant in the MOSAIC Community Garden, you have agreed to abide by these guidelines or are subject to relinquishing your plot.



Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in the following:

1. You will receive a warning letter or phone call regarding the area of concern.
2. You will be given two weeks to correct the issue.
3. After the two weeks have passed, your plot will be revoked and you will lose your plot rental fee.



We want our garden to be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.



Our community garden is a natural garden. The use of non-organic pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers is not permitted. This includes products like Miracle-Gro.



Organic products such as the ones listed below are allowed in the garden. Note that ORGANIC does not mean SAFE. They are more earth-friendly, but you still do not want to get them on your skin since they are concentrates meant for plants. Always follow the product's instructions. If you are using a sprayer, clean after use. More does not mean better!

The following products can help your organic vegetables, flowers, and herbs thrive:

- For killing bugs on contact, use Safer Soap and Bon-Neem. Spray the entire plant, including under the leaves. Spray in the early morning or late afternoon or evening; otherwise, it will burn the leaves on the plants.
- For fertilizing, use Espoma fertilizers and Fertrell products
- For weed control, use corn gluten. If necessary, spread corn gluten on the garden AFTER all vegetable and flower seeds have germinated (sprouted from seed.)

Some of these products can be purchased at Pottstown Roller Mills, 625 Industrial Highway, Pottstown, PA. Their number is 610-323-8620.

- Ladybugs are a gardener's friend! They eat lots of insects. If you see ladybugs, protect them and let them do their job.
- Perhaps the most important way to help your plants thrive is to WEED OFTEN!



Water your garden in the morning before 10 am or after 4 pm. Plants need about 1" of rain per week. Soak the soil. Water the soil if possible, not the plant; this will prevent funguses from growing. Pick your plants when they are dry. Picking wet plants spreads diseases. If you are a smoker, wear gloves when picking your beans. Tobacco spreads bean diseases.



Gardeners and visitors to the garden may want to bring their dogs or other pets. Because people are growing food for human consumption and because pets cannot be watched every single second, pets are not allowed in MOSAIC Community Garden.

Please lock the gate behind you when you come to work in the garden. This will prevent stray cats, dogs, and other animals from wandering into the garden.



Members are given the combination to the locks so that they may use the garden during the daytime hours, from dawn until dusk. Please secure the locks when you are in the garden and whenever you are the last person to leave the garden, no matter what time of day it is. Please do not give the combination to anyone who is not a garden member. Only garden members and authorized visitors and students are allowed in the garden.



Because we want our garden to be a natural, healthy, safe place, no alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances are allowed in the garden at any time.



If your plot becomes unkempt with weeds or trash, you will be given notice to clean it up. If it is not cleaned up, you forfeit your right to the plot.



Do not pick vegetables, fruit or flowers from your neighbor's plot without their permission, even if you think they have neglected their plot.



Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash-free. If you are on a pathway, you are responsible to care for ½ of the pathway between you and your neighbor. Every gardener is asked to try to keep plot edges, pathways, and fencing free of weeds that will go to seed. Do not put rocks and sticks in the path.



Keeps vines and visitors out of neighboring plots.



Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbors' plants.



Immediately remove diseased plants and dispose of them in the garbage can.



There will be a compost bin for gardeners to toss the weeds that have not gone to seed and veggie discards that are not diseased.