

2026 MASON COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION FORM AND AGREEMENT

The Mason Community Garden is a volunteer led program in partnership with the City of Mason. The program is organized and administered by volunteers while the City is committed to providing property to host the garden, and provide water and initial preparation of the property. As part of the partnership, Mason residents receive priority in participating in this program.

Name(s): _____ Date _____
(If sharing a single plot with another, please identify both participants' names — please print legibly)

Address _____ *Mason, Ohio 45040*

Email Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Please check if applicable: I am a senior citizen _____ age: _____ and/or I have a physical disability _____

The **2026 Mason Community Garden** is located on Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road (south of U.S. 42, opposite the Mason Sports Park located at 3400 Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Rd). Due to high demand, only one plot will be assigned to a single household located within the City of Mason. Applications must be received by **March 31**; plots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference to prior gardeners in good standing. Applicants will be notified via email on or before **April 30** regarding their participation. Plots will be available on **May 9** (preparation and weather permitting) through **October 31**. **As a participant in the 2026 Mason Community Garden, I agree to follow the rules as outlined below:**

- I will receive my plot assignment **in person at the Garden at 12:00 Noon on Saturday, May 9** (weather dependent, rain date Sunday May 10), and provide \$10 cash to volunteers to be used for equipment and supplies.
- I will personally **participate at the garden on said Saturday, May 9** (weather dependent, rain date Sunday May 10) when wood chips, provided by the City of Mason, will be put down in place to establish the garden layout (plots of 10-feet by 15-feet in size with 42-inch wide pathways between all plots).
- I will not expand or enlarge my assigned 10' x 15' plot outside its assigned space (inside the orange corner flags) by tilling or fencing or any other obstruction encroaching into a pathway or the unassigned grass edges of the garden.
- I will have at least 75% of my plot tilled, weeded and crops planted by **Wednesday May 20** and will keep the plot tilled, planted **and weeded** throughout the duration of the 2026 season. If less than 75% has not been tilled/weeded/planted by said date, it will be considered abandoned and will be re-assigned. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Community Garden volunteers at masoncommunitygarden@yahoo.com, so that it may be reassigned to another qualified applicant on a wait-list.
- I will provide my own watering can, bucket, or container(s), and not misuse a wheelbarrow to carry water without using such container(s) which will needlessly spill water and could overstress and damage the equipment.
- I will not misuse any of the limited number of wheelbarrows, shovels, forks & rakes which are provided at the four corners of the garden for the use of all gardeners; they are not to be removed from the premises for any reason.
- I will return equipment to the same garden corner from which it was found, with due respect to others. Water, soil, and mulch provided by the City of Mason are likewise not to be taken off premises.
- I will keep weeds at a minimum within my plot and the pathways immediately surrounding my own plot's 4 sides, all summer long. If my plot or any adjacent pathway should become weedy or otherwise unkempt, I understand I will be given seven (7) days notice by email to clean it up. Absent a clean-up by the seventh day, a plot out of compliance will be re-assigned immediately.
- I will not plant corn, sunflowers or other crops to grow greater than 5' tall, nor install any trellis or structure so as to allow plant growth over 5' tall.
- No trellis may be installed at the edge of a plot, but rather must be at least 2 feet inside any edge of my plot.
- I will not use synthetic weed barriers. Straw, mulch, and paper are permitted and encouraged.
- I will not install any device not specifically designed for garden usage (e.g., cages/stakes made for tomatoes only).
- I will not use non-organic fertilizers, insecticides, or chemical weed killers (including but not limited to Roundup/ glyphosate) that will in any way affect other plots or gardeners.
- I will not bring pets to the garden; children are welcome but must be supervised to remain within one's own plot.
- I will pick only my own crops unless I am specifically given permission by another plot user.
- I will vacate my plot and remove all fencing, posts, stakes or lumber or wire cages, watering cans, buckets or jugs, etc., no later than **Saturday, October 31, 2026**. No exceptions.
- I understand that the foregoing rules will be strictly enforced by volunteer garden coordinators.

The undersigned agrees that the City of Mason and the Mason Community Garden are not responsible for any damage or injury resulting from the use of this property. I acknowledge that I will hold the City of Mason and the Mason Community Garden volunteers harmless from any liability or claims arising from the use of this property.

Signed _____ Date _____
[if sharing a single plot, please sign both signatures]

Signed forms (hard copy) may be delivered in person to the Mason Community Center central desk (preferred) or Mason Municipal Center. (Please retain a hard copy for your own reference to these Rules.)