



Please read these important information and updates before filling out an application.

Living Earth Community Garden is fully managed and sponsored by the Living Earth Center. It is located at 170 Good Counsel Dr. across the street from Loyola High School's parking lot. There are over 180 community garden plots and roughly 100 community gardeners and their families that cultivate produce on site. It is an open community growing space that accepts and welcomes all regardless of nationality, race, age, sexual orientation, physical ability or spiritual path. Living Earth Center is a non-profit fully incorporated as a 501c3 charitable organization. It is sponsored in part by the School Sisters of Notre Dame as well through generosity of donors. In addition to hosting the Garden, Living Earth Center also puts on events and workshops that focus on sustainable initiatives and community resilience. For more information, please visit www.livingearthcentermn.org.

Barn Opening and Garden Clean Up

In the spirit of community, we ask that all gardeners attend the Living Earth Community Garden Clean Up and Potluck taking place on **Saturday, April 22nd from 10:30-2:30 PM**. We will work together to clean up the Barn and get the Gardens ready for the season. Time spent here can go towards your 4 hour community service requirement and is a great way to have fun with your garden neighbors! We will break around 12:30 pm have a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to pass.

Spring Orientations

All NEW Gardeners are required to attend ONE Spring Garden Meet and Greet Meeting (please see application form for dates). New gardeners will be required to attend an hour training and plot assignment.

Please RSVP to the garden meet and greet you plan on attending:

- **Monday, April 24th, 2023 at 5:30 PM** at Living Earth Gardens
- **Tuesday, April 25th, 2023 at 5:30 PM** at Living Earth Gardens
- **Saturday, April 29th from 9:00-10:00 AM** at Living Earth Garden

RETURN GARDENERS- Please attend an online update meeting via Zoom on Monday, April 17th at 6:00 PM. A meeting invite will be emailed out. Those unable to attend, must email gardenmanager@livingearthcentermn.org to receive the recording.

Volunteer Requirement

We ask all gardeners to join a "team" that contributes to the maintenance of the Garden or works to build a strong Garden community. Please sign up for one Volunteer Team for the season. Time commitment varies from team to team. We ask that all gardeners record their volunteer hours on our volunteer record in the Barn.

Partner Plot Team

Responsible for planting, watering, weeding, and harvesting partner plots and delivering produce to Welcome Inn, Theresa House and other organizations with expressed need. Time commitment: weekly.



Kids Peace Garden Team

Responsible for helping to plant, water, and weed the Kids Peace Garden. Time commitment: weekly.

Barn and Tool Care Team

Responsible for keeping the barn and tools clean. Time commitment: weekly.

Hospitality and Education Team

Responsible for helping to organize monthly gardener meet and greet potlucks with an education focus and posting tips on pest control and organic gardening methods. Time commitment: monthly.

Flower Bed Team

Responsible for planting, watering, and weeding flower beds near barn and around bird baths. Time commitment: weekly.

Gardener Assistance Team

Responsible for helping gardeners in need of assistance to weed or water their plots if they are on vacation or have a medical issue. Time commitment: as needed.

Path Maintenance Team

Responsible for laying cardboard and wood chips around paths and making sure they are maintained throughout the year. Time commitment: monthly.

Garden Committee

Responsible for meeting monthly during the Garden Season to discuss garden issues and make important decisions regarding the gardens. Time commitment: monthly.

Plot Payment and Fees

Plots are priced on a sliding scale. The first plot is \$30 each additional plot is \$10. We invite gardeners who can afford more to pay more if they are willing. This fee will go toward expenses of the community garden (electricity, water bills, compost, toilet fees, tools, maintenance, and education etc.). The fee includes ONE wheel barrow of compost per plot, water, the use of tools, and access to the barn. Scholarships are available upon request.



2023 Garden Registration Form

RETURN GARDENERS- To secure your plot from last year, please fill out this form and provide payment by no later than March 1st. Please note, if your registration and payment are not received by this date, we cannot guarantee the same plot/s as past years.

NEW GARDENERS- Please fill out the form below. Plots will be assigned on a first come first served basis depending on availability. We will inform you at the beginning of April if plots are available or ask if you would like to be on a waiting list. If a plot is available, please attend one of the Garden Trainings (dates listed in form) to be shown available plots.

For questions, please contact Mal Murphey at gardenmanager@livingearthcentermn.org
Living Earth Center, at 507-389-4272 or Laura Peterson at lpeterson@livingearthcentermn.org

PRIMARY GARDENER CONTACT INFORMATION *REQUIRED

Please fill out the below section with the name and contact information for the primary contact person for the garden plot.

FirstName _____ LastName _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (required) _____

Email: _____

SECONDARY GARDENER CONTACT INFORMATION

Please fill out the below section with the name and contact information for secondary contact who will be gardening on the plot (if applicable). Please note that all people who will be gardening on your plot must attend a Garden Meet and Greet Meeting and fill out a Garden Contract and Liability Waiver.

FirstName _____ LastName _____

Phone (required) _____

Email _____



ADDITIONAL GARDENER INFORMATION

1. Will there be other gardeners other than the primary and secondary gardener tending to the garden plot? (please circle one)
Yes No
2. If yes, please list the name and contact information (phone and email) of the other gardeners below.

Garden Plot Assignment

All gardeners will be assigned garden plots based upon availability. Return gardeners without any disciplinary warnings will be given preference to garden spaces. All gardeners will receive notification of their plot assignment by April 12th. A waiting list will be created if we run out of plots.

1. Did you have a garden plot with Living Earth Community Gardens last year? (Please circle one). *REQUIRED.
Yes No
2. How many garden plots would you like? *REQUIRED
(number up to 5) _____
Garden plots are approximately 10' x 10'. The maximum amount of plots a gardener can have is 5 if space permits. If plots need to be filled, gardeners may take on more on a year to year basis.
3. If you are returning gardener, do you want the same garden plot/s again this year? (Please circle one).
Yes No

If no, what area of the garden would you like to be in? _____
We will try to accommodate your request on a first come first served basis.

Payment and Fees

1. How do you plan to pay for your plot? (Please check one). * REQUIRED
Please send payment to c/o Living Earth Center, 170 Good Counsel Dr. Mankato, MN 56001. Please make all checks payable to Living Earth Center. Scholarships are available for gardeners with demonstrated need who cannot pay the minimum fee for garden plots.



- I am enclosing a check here. (Preferred)
 I plan to pay in cash or credit card at a Meet and Greet Training
 I am interested in a scholarship to pay the minimum fee for my plots

Living Earth Community Garden Clean Up and Potluck

1. Do you plan to attend the Living Earth Garden Barn Clean Up and Potluck on Saturday, April 22 from 10:30 AM -2:30 PM? (please check one)
 I plan to attend and will bring a dish to pass
 I am unable to make it but will complete my four hours of community service at another time

Volunteer Teams

1. Please indicate what volunteer team are you interested in? Please see descriptions on at the beginning of the form. (Please check all that apply). *REQUIRED.
This year, we will ask all gardeners to join a volunteer "team" to complete their four hours of volunteer community service.
 Barn and Tool Team
 Partner Plot Team
 Kids Peace Garden Team



- Path Team
- Hospitality and Education Team
- Flowerbed Team
- Gardener Assistance Team
- Garden Committee

Emergency Contact and Medical Information

1. Do you have any medical conditions (serious allergies) that we should be aware of?
*REQUIRED.

Yes No

2. If yes, please describe the medical condition and whether or not it would require that you use a garden hose for watering. *Garden hoses are not permitted at the Living Earth Garden unless gardeners have a documented medical condition.*

3. If your medical condition requires that you use a hose to water, please attach a doctor's note or other medical documentation.

4. In case of an emergency, please provide the name and contact information of an emergency contact that does not also garden at Living Earth Community Gardens.
(REQUIRED)

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone number _____

Demographic Information:

Living Earth Center asks *optional* demographic questions to better understand the community we serve, to secure outside funding and grants, and to inform programs and workshops. If you do not feel comfortable sharing the below information, it will not impact your garden application.

1. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Latino origin? (optional)

Yes

No

2. How would you describe yourself? (optional)

Native American or Alaskan

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

White



Other

3. What is your age? (optional)

15-20

21-25

26-40

41-64

65 or older

4. Can you tell us your household income? (optional)

Under \$20,000

\$20,001- \$40,000

\$40,001- \$60,000

\$60,001- \$80,000

\$80,001- \$100,000

Over \$100,000

Please mail this form along with payment to c/o Living Earth Center, 170 Good Counsel Dr.
Mankato, MN 56001.

By signing this form, I agree to attend a Spring Garden Meeting to review the rules and sign a liability waiver form. I understand that failure to meet the guidelines and/or sign the liability form will result in loss of gardening privileges.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____