



# Adopt-a-Crop Application

## About

The Caledonia Community Garden Adopt-a-Crop program is designed to help keep the gardens regularly maintained by the community to produce a fresh and fulfilling harvest for the community. The crops will be spread amongst 20 raised garden beds as well as a large field area. The 4'x8' raised beds typically contain 1 to 2 crops each. The field contains various crops in sections or rows. Your responsibility is to maintain the crop(s) of your choice. Adopting does not mean you receive all the harvest from that crop.

## Contact Information

Name	
Street Address	
City, ZIP Code	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

## Crop to Adopt

Tell us in which crop(s) you are interested in adopting. Only chose what you are willing to maintain.

I don't have a preference. Have the garden committee chose a crop for me.

### Raised Bed Crops

- Broccoli #1
- Broccoli #2
- Cabbage
- Cauliflower
- Green Onions
- Herbs #1
- Herbs #2
- Lettuce
- Peas
- Green Pepper
- Yellow Pepper
- Red Pepper
- Radish/Brussels Sprouts
- Salad Mix
- Salsa Mix
- Spinach
- Tomato #1
- Tomato #2
- Tomato #3
- Tomato #4 / Basil

### Field Crops

- Flowers
- Carrots
- Cucumbers
- Pumpkins
- Potatoes
- Watermelon
- Swiss Chard
- Kale
- Beets
- Green Beans
- Yellow Beans
- Zucchini
- Squash
- Sweet Corn
- Eggplant
- Leeks
- Muskmelon

## Person to Notify in Case of Emergency

Name	
Street Address	
City, ZIP Code	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

## Garden Usage Guidelines

**Caledonia Community Garden is committed to safe and organic gardening practices. Any gardener who does not strictly adhere to these practices will have their plot revoked and will forfeit their right to garden with Caledonia Community Garden in the future. Please reference the guidelines listed below. We know organic gardening may not be a familiar concept to everyone, so feel free to reach out to us for additional guidance.**

### Weed Control

- Controlling weeds not only helps your plants flourish, but it prevents neighboring garden plots from becoming overrun as well
- *Recommended:* Use grass clippings or hay to mulch around established seedlings then hand weed as needed
- *Prohibited:* Herbicides of any kind as they are hazardous to human health, may kill or damage desirable crops, drift into neighboring gardens, or remain in the soil long after initial use

### Insect Control

- Controlling insects is important to your own garden health, but also helps your neighbors prevent excessive damage as well
- *Recommended:* Companion planting, fabric row covers, biological controls and introducing natural predator species (like ladybugs); as a last resort natural botanical pesticides (like Bonide Rotenone and Pyrethrum) that break down quickly and do not leave harmful residue in the soil may be used
- *Prohibited:* Synthetic pesticides of any kind

### Disease Control

- Most problems can be controlled by maintaining a clean garden and a healthy soil
- *Recommended:* Choose disease-resistant plant varieties, water judiciously, and remove diseased plants from the garden

### Fertilizers & Soil Amendments

- Soil health is important not only for your plants this season, but for future gardeners as well; therefore, we strongly encourage adding ample organic material (i.e. compost, leaf mold, manure) to maintain ongoing soil fertility
- *Recommended:* Products of plant or animal origin - compost, leaf mold, livestock manure, blood and bone meal, cover crops, fish emulsion, kelp meal, liquid seaweed; commercial organic fertilizer blends; natural mineral fertilizers - greensand, granite dust, ground limestone
- *Prohibited:* Inorganic fertilizers (e.g. 5-1-5, Miracle Grow)

### Composting

- We strongly encourage composting organic material from plots, but it can only be done in designated areas at the garden site
- *Recommended:* Use the on-site compost
- *Prohibited:* Composting garden refuse at the garden site outside of specified areas

### Unacceptable Plants

- In the spirit of community gardens, please ensure that your plot is free from unacceptable plants; if you have concerns about neighboring sites, please contact us to discuss
- *Recommended:* If you find an unacceptable plant in your plot (e.g. an invasive species like Mint), do not move it - if you'd like to keep it for the season, limit its spread within your plot and do not transplant
- *Prohibited:* Invasive species (e.g. mint, comfrey); trees, bushes, or other woody perennials; illegal or dangerous plants

## Tools & Equipment

- We supply a few gardening tools located in the garden shed and supply hoses and watering cans
- *Recommended:* Use tools with care, return tools and hoses when not in use, notify us when tools break, never discard hoses (leaks can be fixed!)

## Water

- Water will be on-site via a large elevated water tank
- *Recommended:* Hand-held hose attachments for precise watering, mulching to conserve water by holding in moisture; contacting us if there's a leak, low water in tank or water problem
- *Prohibited:* Unattended garden watering, soaker hoses, hose timers

## Closing Your Garden Plot

- Gardeners must clean up plots (including perennial plots) at the end of each season (we will notify gardeners of each year's exact date - generally mid-October)
- Required by Closing Day: Annual plots ready for plowing, free of all non-organic material (e.g. fencing, stakes) with vegetation cut to 1-foot lengths and scattered around the plot; perennial plots should be free from all non-organic materials that are not in use and have a neat appearance

**PLEASE REMEMBER** - We are guests on the property where this garden site is located. Our members and gardeners represent Caledonia Community Garden. Please be a good tenant and respectful of landowner and neighbors.

## Agreement and Signature

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as an Adopt-a-Crop volunteer, any false statements, omissions, or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in my immediate dismissal. I accept the garden usage guidelines set forth by the Caledonia Community Garden. I agree to hold Caledonia Community Garden, the Village and Township of Caledonia, Caledonia United Methodist Church, and their agents, supporters, sponsors, representatives and employees, harmless from any and all liability for bodily harm, damage, or loss of any kind arising from, or in any manner connected with, my participation in Caledonia Community Garden.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

## Form Instructions

Once you have the form filled in and signed please:

Mail to:

Caledonia Community Garden  
c/o Caledonia United Methodist Church  
250 Vine St.  
Caledonia, MI 49316

Or scan and e-mail to: [apply@caledoniacommunitygarden.org](mailto:apply@caledoniacommunitygarden.org)

Send questions to: [david@caledoniacommunitygarden.org](mailto:david@caledoniacommunitygarden.org)

## Our Policy

It is the policy of this organization to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, or disability.

Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in volunteering with us.