



## Garden to Table® Application 2017



Garden To Table® is a community garden program of The Open Door, a hunger relief organization dedicated to ending local hunger through access to healthy food. The Garden to Table Program was created to provide individuals and families who struggle with food insecurity access to the resources necessary to grow their own healthy food supply. To be food insecure means you have a hard time getting enough affordable, nutritious food for you and/or your household. All participants must be residents of Dakota County.

There is no income requirement to participate in the program. While plots are prioritized for families struggling with food insecurity, there are frequently additional plots available for volunteers who wish to grow food for The Open Door pantry, and interested volunteers are encouraged to apply.

The Open Door provides you with:

- Garden space
- Access to water
- Tools
- Seeds
- Plants
- Compost

In exchange, you must:

- Keep your garden free of weeds and debris
- Record the weight of your harvest using scales provided at each site
- Participate in community work days

Plan on dedicating about 5 hours per week to the program from April–October.

Please return to The Open Door pantry, or mail to 3910 Rahn Rd, Eagan, MN 55122 or email [garden@theopendoorpantry.org](mailto:garden@theopendoorpantry.org)

Questions? Call 651-605-2883



## Garden to Table® Application 2017



### Gardener Information

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Service Provider \_\_\_\_\_ Do we have permission to send you texts?  Yes  No

Email \_\_\_\_\_

1. Family size: Number of adults \_\_\_\_ Number of children (>18) \_\_\_\_ Number of seniors (65+) \_\_\_\_\_
2. If you have children, do they receive free or reduced lunches at school?  Yes  No
3. Are you and/or your household food insecure?  Yes  No  Giving Gardener, by clicking here, this means the 90% of the food you grow will go directly to The Open Door Pantry. (Of course you can keep 10% for yourself!)
4. Do you currently receive food support from The Open Door or its Mobile Pantry?  Yes  No
5. Do you currently receive food support from other agencies (SNAP, Community Meals, Food Shelves, etc.)?  
 Yes  No
6. On average, how many meals does your household **miss** on a weekly basis? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many days in the past week did you **have** access to five servings of fruits and/or vegetables? \_\_\_\_
8. Have you ever gardened with Garden To Table® before?  Yes  No
9. How much experience gardening do you have?  
 **None**—I'm new and ready to learn!  
 **Some**—Things grow, but I'm no expert  
 **A lot**—I have a green thumb

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### Garden Preference

Where would you like to garden? You can rank up to 3 choices, or just circle the one(s) you would like.

Rank	Garden Site	Address	Abbreviation
	Crossroads Church	4100 Lexington Way Eagan, MN 55123	CR
	Inver Hills Community Garden	2500 80th St E Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076	IHCC
	Mary, Mother of the Church	3333 Cliff Rd E, Burnsville, MN 55337	MM
	St. Joseph's Church	13900 Biscayne Ave Rosemount, MN 55068	SJ
	Ss. Martha & Mary Church	4180 Lexington Ave S Eagan, MN 55123	SS
	The Open Door	3910 Rahn Rd Eagan, MN 55122	TOD
	No preference		

Size of plot desired  Full-5' x 20'  Half-5' x 8'

*Half plots are available at CR, TOD and MM*

Are you disabled and need a handicap accessible plot?  Yes  No

*Handicap accessible plots available at TOD and SJ*

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### Requirements for Participation in Garden To Table®

#### Take Care of your Plot\*

You are responsible for your plot and the pathways around your plot. Please water, weed and harvest every week. Plan for at least 5 hours a week at your garden.

#### Weigh Your Harvest\*

We have to weigh the harvest to show our success and to continue receiving funding for the program. There is a scale and a harvest-tracking sheet available at each site for you to do this. The Garden To Table® Coordinator will show you how to do this at the orientation session.

*\*Failure to maintain your plot and report harvest weights may result in loss of your garden plot.*

#### Workdays

Attend at least 2 per season. There will be one workday at your site per month from June-October. You can choose to volunteer at a monthly garden event instead of a workday if you choose.

**Garden Events** - You or someone in your household is strongly encouraged to attend each of the following events:

#### All-Garden Spring Kickoff

Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. | Mt. Calvary Church, 3930 Rahn Rd, Eagan, MN 55122

Meet other gardeners, share a free meal, and receive important information about the growing season.

#### Orientation Session & Seed distribution

Participants meet at their garden site, find and mark their plots, go over garden guidelines and do some community work preparing the garden for the season. You only need to attend **your** own garden's orientation session. These dates will be announced at the Garden to Table Kick-Off.

#### Plant Pick-Up

Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12-2pm and again 5-7pm | The House, The Open Door, 3910 Rahn Rd, Eagan, MN 55122

#### Monthly Garden Events

Events take place once per month from June–October and are meant to be fun, social gatherings to connect over gardening, food, and community.

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### Guidelines (please initial each line).

\_\_\_\_\_ Garden hours are 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. You can be on site any time within those hours.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pets are not allowed in the garden area. Please keep in the car, (windows down if it's hot)!

\_\_\_\_\_ Children are welcome in the garden, but please watch them at all times.

\_\_\_\_\_ You are responsible for your plot and the pathways around your plot. Please water, weed and harvest every week. Plan for at least 5 hours a week at your garden.

\_\_\_\_\_ If weeds in your garden are over **6" tall**, your plot will be considered **abandoned** and will be **reassigned** after one verbal (phone) and one written (letter) warning.

\_\_\_\_\_ If you need help caring for your plot, please talk to the Garden To Table Coordinator and we can help you maintain your plot if you are sick or unavailable for a short period of time.

\_\_\_\_\_ Plant materials (weeds, cuttings) from your garden plot must be **removed** at each visit, separated and composted or thrown away. See the section on "Composting" in the Gardener Toolkit for more information.

\_\_\_\_\_ No harvesting from, dumping on, or messing with other plots, unless asked to by the Garden To Table Coordinator or plot holder directly.

\_\_\_\_\_ Illegal and invasive plants of any kind are not allowed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Crops, plants, vines, and structures must stay within your garden plot. If your plants are in the pathways or other people's plots, they might be removed without notice.

\_\_\_\_\_ Only organic fertilizers and pest control allowed. Herbicides, insecticides and fertilizers (like Miracle Gro and Round-up) **are not allowed**. Organic solutions, are in your toolkit.

\_\_\_\_\_ Garden tools, hoses and some trellises are provided. Please clean your tools and store them where you found them after each use. Please do not take these items out of the garden. If you need to borrow a tool for home use, ask the Garden To Table® Coordinator first.

\_\_\_\_\_ All crops must be harvested and gardens cleaned out by October 31. Anything left in your plot after that date will be thrown away. If you would like to store something over the winter, please ask the Garden To Table® Coordinator.

Please be respectful of other gardeners—this is a **community** garden!

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### Steps To Resolve Garden Issues

- ✓ Try to resolve the issue on your own, including speaking directly and respectfully with anyone violating the rules.

#### **If that doesn't work or you don't feel safe:**

- ✓ Call or Email the Garden To Table Coordinator  
651-605-2883 | [garden@theopendoorpantry.org](mailto:garden@theopendoorpantry.org)
- ✓ You may be asked to be a part of the solution.

### Hold Harmless Waiver

The Open Door and affiliates assume no liability for any injury to persons, or damage, theft or loss of property belonging to garden participants, before, during, or after their usage and/or lease.

### Statement of Understanding

*By signing below, you agree to hold harmless The Open Door and its affiliates in the case of injury of person, or theft, damage or loss of personal property. You also agree to comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as well as the guidelines and requirements for participation in Garden To Table® detailed in this application. The Open Door may terminate a garden plot lease or activity at any time for non-compliance with these guidelines.*

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

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### Disqualification Policy

Garden To Table® is a program of The Open Door. The following rules shall apply if The Open Door (TOD) learns (*via a criminal background search or otherwise*) that a prospective or current participant (gardener or otherwise) has been convicted of, has pleaded guilty to, has received adjudication for, or has pleaded no contest to one of the following crimes:

#### Automatic disqualification

- Crimes against children
- Felony offenses against persons
- Felony offenses against a family member
- Crimes defined as public indecency
- Registered sex offenders
- Crimes involving the use of weapons
- Any violent crime
- Any felony drug-related offense
- Any felony conviction within the five year period prior to application

#### Possible disqualification

For all other criminal offenses, or felony convictions older than the five-year period preceding the background check, TOD shall review the applicant's situation on a case-by-case basis. The decision whether to allow participation shall be within the discretion of TOD. Factors to be considered by TOD in making such determinations include, but are not limited to, the nature and severity of the criminal conduct, the position for which the person seeks to participate in the program or volunteer, the length of time since the criminal conduct occurred, the circumstances under which the crime was committed, the degree of rehabilitation, the likelihood that the person will commit the crime again, and the number of crimes committed by the prospective participant.

#### Confidentiality

TOD will maintain the confidentiality of all criminal background search information, including information regarding disqualification decisions. Further questions regarding this policy should be directed to Jason Vianna, Executive Director at 651-605-2894.

*I verify that I do not meet any of the requirements for disqualification. I understand that I am not allowed to bring anyone that meets any of the criteria for disqualification to any Garden To Table® event.*

**Gardener Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Permission to Use Photograph or Image

*I grant to The Open Door, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs or film of me and my property. I authorize The Open Door, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that The Open Door may use such photographs or film of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content. I have read and understand the above:*

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

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

Signature, parent or guardian (if under age 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name, parent or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members Covered:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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