



Verona Community Garden Bed Agreement - 2026

<https://www.veronanj.org/communitygarden>

- **Location and Purpose:** The Verona Community Garden (VCG) is situated behind H.B. Whitehorne Middle School. Its primary mission is to provide a community green space that fosters gardening, promotes well-being, and facilitates social engagement among Verona residents.
- **Fees and Season Duration:** The fee for a full bed is \$60, and a half bed is \$30. A refund is available until April 1, 2025. The official gardening season extends from March through November.
- **Eligibility and Allocation:** Applicants must be Verona residents aged 18 or older. Due to limited availability, beds are assigned through an annual lottery process and a waiting list. Each household is restricted to one garden bed. **Do not submit a signed agreement until formal bed assignment notification has been received.**
- **Gardener Responsibilities:**
 - Gardeners are required to maintain their assigned bed and the surrounding area consistently. This includes controlling weeds, pests, and disease using **exclusively organic products** (refer to the OMRI list for approved materials).
 - Timely harvesting of ripe produce is mandatory; failure to do so may result in the VCG Committee harvesting the produce for donation.
 - On-site composting is prohibited. All garden trimmings and waste must be removed from the premises. Pets are not permitted within the garden area.
 - Failure to maintain the bed will result in two formal warnings (each with a 7-day period for correction) before the bed and associated privileges are forfeited.
 - Perennial plants may be cultivated only if they are fully contained within a pot.
- **Mandatory Participation:**
 - Attendance is mandatory for the **Opening Day** orientation/cleanup and the **Closing Day** cleanup (dates to be determined).
 - Each participating family must complete one week of required summer garden maintenance duties (e.g., watering).
- **Access:** Access is restricted to the time between sunrise and sunset. Gardeners must remain within the designated garden area. School children may utilize the garden as part of their official curriculum.
- **Liability and Waiver:** By signing this agreement, the gardener agrees to comply with all rules (which are subject to amendment) and waives the right to hold the Township, School Board, or VCG Committee liable for any damages or injury.
- **Application Procedure:** Complete the electronic registration form online, or mail pages 2 and 3 along with payment (made payable to the Township of Verona) to: Township of Verona, 600 Bloomfield Ave, Verona NJ 07044, Attn: Community Garden.

Verona Community Garden Registration Form

When you have received notification that we have been assigned a bed for 2026, complete the electronic application on [the garden web page](#) or send payment and page 2-3 to:

Township of Verona
600 Bloomfield Ave
Verona NJ 07044
Attn: Community Garden

Gardener Name: _____

Do not return a contract unless you have been notified that YOU are assigned a bed.

Community Garden Membership Agreement: By signing below, I agree that I have read and understood this application, including the obligations & rules for participation in the Verona Community Garden program. Please initial each statement below.

_____ I understand that if I do not follow the information outlined herein or the rules and regulations of the Community Garden as established by the VCG committee, the Township of Verona or the Verona Board of Education, I may lose my membership, and/or my bed will be reassigned.

_____ I recognize that I may receive amended rules and regulations and agree that I am responsible to follow the same and shall not be entitled to a refund in the event that I cannot or do not follow them for any reason.

_____ I am responsible to contact the VCG Committee if I am going to be unable to maintain my bed on a weekly basis or if I have any questions.

_____ I use this garden at the discretion of the VCG committee and must abide by the rules and regulations. I will contact the VCG Committee if I have any dispute or issue that needs attention.

_____ I hereby agree to waive, indemnify and save and hold harmless the Township of Verona, the Verona Board of Education and the VCG Committee and its agents and volunteers charged with the administration of the garden, from and against any liability, damage, loss or claim arising out of, in connection with, or in any way related to the community garden, by me or any of my family or guests, agents, or invitees. This waiver includes but is not limited to damages arising out of personal injury and/or damage to property. This waiver shall survive any termination of this agreement.

Gardener's Information: (Must be over 18 and provide proof of residency).

The \$60.00 or \$30 payment should be made to the Township of Verona.

Name(s) (clearly printed): _____

Family / Caregivers who will assist in maintaining my bed: _____

E-Mail address (clearly printed): _____

Phone Number: _____

Home Address:

Check your assigned bed size:
_____ whole bed, 32 sq. ft , \$60

_____ half bed, 16 sq. ft, \$30

_____ elevated garden bed, \$30?

If you had a bed last year, what was the letter and number? _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

If a gardener fails to maintain their bed after receiving warnings, the consequences are as follows:

1. **Forfeiture of the Bed:** The garden bed will be forfeited.
2. **Loss of Privileges and Plot:** The gardener will lose their privileges and plot for the remainder of the season.
3. **Ineligibility for Next Season:** The gardener will not be offered a plot the following season.

This process is initiated after a verbal warning and a subsequent written or electronic notice, with a 7-day period for correction after each warning. If the violation is not fixed after the second 7-day period, the bed is forfeited.

_____ **Initials**