

# Stirling and District Lion Club Community Garden Guidelines

## Garden Availability

There are a limited number of Garden Plots available. Please register early to avoid disappointment. Gardeners will be limited to reserving 2 plots before the garden season. Anyone who wishes to have more than 2 plots will be offered any plots that were not allocated after the garden is ready to plant.

It has become too difficult administratively to allow gardeners to choose their plots. Considerations will be given to gardeners that require full sun or some shade for certain plants. There are no full-shade plots.

Gardeners must pay their \$20 plot fees prior to planting their gardens. Plots that are planted without payment will receive a notice and after 14 days of non-payment will have their plants removed.

## Gardening Season

Beginning of the season access to garden plots is dependent on the ability of the Lions Club to have the garden tilled. As Lions Park is located entirely in the floodplain it is often too wet to till until mid-May or later. The Lions Club will let gardeners know when the garden is ready to plant as soon as they are able to.

Gardeners are expected to have their plots cleared of all plants, stakes, fencing, and other materials by the end of the Thanksgiving Day weekend, at the latest. We understand that gardening can continue in this zone well into the fall, however; the fall till and closing up of the garden must occur prior to the fall flood.

## Access to the Garden

The Community Garden is located in Lions Park. The entrance is located on the road allowance between the homes located at 88 and 68 Elizabeth Street. You may walk or drive into the garden but please do not leave the road allowance until you are in the park. The Lions Park property starts once you have crossed the culvert on the road allowance. Everything else is privately owned by our neighbours and we ask that you please respect their property boundaries.

The Lions Park is available to everyone 7 days a week from dusk until dawn. As the park is not well known and does not have any infrastructure, including washroom facilities, it is unusual for anyone other than gardeners to be on-site; however, anyone who would like to spend time there may do so.

## Covid 19

We ask that anyone who is feeling unwell refrain from visiting the Lions Park or Community Garden, Please use hand sanitizer before and after using communal water sources and keep up to date on Covid 19 information through the Hastings and Prince Edward Health Unit.



## **Donations**

The Stirling and District Lions Park and The Community Garden are funded entirely by the Stirling and District Lions Club. Plot fees are used to help pay lawn mowing fees and property taxes.

The Lions Club cannot pay for these expenses through fundraising means under the governance of Lions International. Any monetary donations from the community to put towards these expenses must be strictly earmarked to do so and are most welcome.

Gardeners with extra produce are encouraged to share what they do not need for themselves. If gardeners would like assistance finding community members to share their produce with, the Lions Club would be happy to assist them in doing so. The community food cupboard also accepts fresh produce and the Lions Club can help gardeners connect to the organizers of that program.

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library has started a seed library. Please consider saving some of the seeds from your produce to donate to this program. Don't forget to check out their seed section before buying your own

## **Questions?**

If you need any guidance, or assistance, or have questions or concerns please contact Lion Alana at [alanabancroft@yahoo.com](mailto:alanabancroft@yahoo.com) or (613)242-6602. There are lots of resources out there for first-time or seasoned gardens!

Happy Gardening!

