

**Clinton Community Garden, Inc.**  
PO Box 214 \* New York, NY 10108-0214  
**KEY HOLDER AGREEMENT**

(as of 2/7/2012)

WELCOME TO THE CLINTON COMMUNITY GARDEN The garden was created in 1977 by Hell's Kitchen residents who cleaned out the debris of a 28 year old vacant lot and transformed it to a beautiful garden oasis. The garden is a **501(c)(3)** non-profit organization managed and governed by an elected body of gardeners called the Steering Committee. The garden is under license from the **New York City Parks Department** and is open during daylight hours, depending upon time of year, available daylight, and weather.

GENERAL GARDEN RULES

The following rules and guidelines are listed to help us protect the garden and to enjoy it in a quiet, considerate manner. Everyone's cooperation is expected in order to have access to the garden. Garden rules are strictly enforced by all gardeners and the Steering Committee. A current copy of the rules are posted on the bulletin boards in the garden and our website, [www.clintongarden.org](http://www.clintongarden.org)

Failure to abide by any rule may result in the loss of garden access and privileges. All key holders and plot gardeners have a responsibility to abide by these rules and inform their guests of the rules.

- The care of each front garden bed and rear garden plot is assigned to specific individuals and only those individuals may enter or alter the area assigned to them.
- Picking or destruction of plants or flowers is not permitted.
- Climbing, picking, and pulling on trees or shrubs is not permitted.
- Walking through any garden bed or plot is not permitted.
- The water supply is only to be used by gardeners caring for their assigned areas.
- Only individual plot gardeners and their guests are allowed into the rear garden.
- Herbs may be harvested carefully from the community herb section.
- Only persons with a garden key plus their guests are allowed in the front garden.
- All gates are to be left securely locked behind you; you are responsible for anyone you allow to enter.
- Remember, exiting the garden also requires a key
- Non-key holders must not be left in the garden without a key holder present.
- Children must be supervised at all times and accompanied by an adult
- All animals, including dogs and cats, are not permitted.
- Ball playing, rough games and running are not permitted.
- Littering and urinating are not permitted.
- Except through headphones, amplified sound is not permitted.
- Bicycles are not allowed. A bicycle rack is provided on the outside sidewalk.
- Strollers and rollerblades are not allowed on the lawn.
- Gatherings of 10 or more people must complete a Special Events Application and have prior permission from the Steering Committee.

The garden is NOT a playground. If you are seeking a park or playground, we recommend the following nearby sites: Hell's Kitchen Park (10th Avenue between 47th & 48th Sts.), Ramon Aponte Playground (47th St. between 8th & 9th Aves.), and May Matthews Playground (46th St. between 8th & 9th Aves.). The garden is a community space. All gardeners and their guests are expected to follow garden policy and behave in a manner that is consistent with acceptable norms of behavior.

## FRONT GARDEN KEYS

To obtain a key to the garden, one must sign the KEYHOLDER AGREEMENT and return it to any Steering Committee member or by mail. Keys are made available to the public for the price of making the key (currently KEYS ARE NOT TO BE DUPLICATED. EVERYONE MUST REQUEST AN INDIVIDUAL KEY AND SIGN THIS AGREEMENT.

## REAR GARDEN & PLOTS

There are 110 garden plots in the rear of the garden. These individual plots are made available to neighborhood residents (defined as those residing between 34th and 57th Streets and 8th Avenue and the Hudson River) on a first come, first served basis. To obtain a rear garden plot, send a postcard to Clinton Community Garden, PO Box 214, New York, NY 10108 and state the name, address, and phone number of applicant. Since there is a limited number of plots, all requests that cannot be honored will be added to a "waiting list" which is posted in the Garden's bulletin board and on the website [www.clintongarden.org](http://www.clintongarden.org). The waiting list is continually monitored and plots are assigned from the wait lists as they become available during the year.

## MEMBERSHIP

Per the bylaws, Garden membership is open to all persons who have been assigned a plot (but not sub-letters); all past plot holders who are still active and express a wish to the Steering Committee to remain members; and front garden volunteers. Each member is entitled to one vote at any general membership meeting. Each March, the Annual Meeting is held and all members are encouraged to attend. However, holding a front garden key does not confer membership.

## VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are always needed to help with daily, weekly, and special projects. The garden has no paid staff and all administrative and maintenance duties are performed by volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Steering Committee.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

At the Annual Meeting, Steering Committee members are elected by the general membership for two year terms. The Steering Committee has general power to manage and control the affairs and property of the Garden, including adopting and enforcing rules; purchasing goods and services; and revoking garden membership. All questions, complaints, compliments, and suggestions should be directed to the Steering Committee either in writing (PO Box 214, NYC 10108) or in person at the monthly Steering Committee meeting (held the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, at Fountain House, 425 West 47th Street, or as posted). The names and phone numbers of Steering Committee members are posted in the Bulletin Board.

## BULLETIN BOARD

The Bulletin Board, located near the back fence of the front garden, is used to post announcements, upcoming events, and changes/deletions/additions to garden policy (including this form). It is the responsibility of each key holder to monitor the Bulletin Board and follow updated policy. If you would like to post something in the Bulletin Board, contact the Steering Committee.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Gatherings of 10 or more people must complete a Special Events Application and have prior permission from the Steering Committee. A deposit might be required.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

The garden relies on the generosity of all its members. Your annual gift to the garden can help fund needed repairs, plantings, and special events. Please consider a donation, no matter how small. Every penny helps. All contributions to the garden are tax-deductible and should be made payable to CLINTON COMMUNITY GARDEN, INC.