

Community Gardens in Thornton

Community Gardens in Thornton are eligible for funding and assistance through a partnership with Adams Community Gardens CO-OP, Keep Thornton Beautiful and the City of Thornton. Gardens must be:

- Located within the City limits;
- Open to any Thornton residents who want to garden; and
- Donate a substantial amount of the produce to area food banks/pantries.

Adams Community Gardens CO-OP – Technical Assistance

The Adams Community Gardens CO-OP was formed in 2006 to promote the development of community gardens in Adams County. This non-profit offers technical assistance for gardens and gardeners.

Each new garden designates a lead gardener(s) to attend a monthly meeting where common garden issues are discussed and members from the CSU Extension Master Gardener program are present to lend their expertise. CO-OP meetings are normally held on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. from February to October at The Senior Hub, Inc. 2360 W. 90th Ave. in Federal Heights. Meeting dates, times and locations may change from time to time.

Gardeners at each garden may determine the format for their garden (whether the garden will be worked communally or as individual plots, etc.). Gardeners will be expected to sign a standard waiver/release form used by the Adams Community Gardens CO-OP before being allowed to participate in any of the community gardens or community garden events. If the gardener is a minor, their parent or guardian will need to sign the waiver/release form.

Each garden will supply produce not only to their gardeners, but will also donate a substantial amount to area food banks/pantries. All produce donated to local food banks/pantries must be cleaned prior to being donated and prepared for easy distribution by food bank/pantry staff to their clients.

For more information about community garden locations or the Adams Community Gardens CO-OP, please contact Tom Rapp, CO-OP Coordinator at trapp@seniorhub.org or 303-426-4408 Ext. 208.

Financial Assistance

Any community gardens interested in receiving financial assistance through grants or rebates must submit the attached Registration and Renewal form to the City of Thornton, Neighborhood Services Division, 9500 Civic Center Drive, Thornton, CO 80229 or to neighbor@cityofthornton.net. The Registration and Renewal form must be signed by an authorized representative of the property and will also serve as your garden's application for material grants from Keep Thornton Beautiful and water rebates through the City.

- **Keep Thornton Beautiful – Material Grants**

Keep Thornton Beautiful (KTB) is a non-profit organization committed to improving the community through beautification, environmental stewardship and litter and waste reduction. KTB offers grants for garden materials to new gardens of up to \$200 and established gardens from \$50 to \$100. Grant funds may be used for garden tools or materials such as compost, seeds, and stakes. Funds may not be used to purchase food, drinks, or signs. *For questions about these grants, please call KTB at 303-563-7019 or Info@KeepThorntonBeautiful.org.*

- **City of Thornton – Water Rebates**

The City of Thornton offers rebates on water usage for registered Thornton community gardens. Gardens must be open to all residents with particular emphasis on those residents living in the immediate vicinity of the closest garden. For example, a community garden located on church property must be made available to area residents and not just members of the congregation.

The City will set up a water supply line to approved gardens from an existing water line at the church property. The City will take readings of water usage specifically for the garden and rebate the church's water bill for the cost to water the garden. *For questions on the water rebates, please call the City's Parks Division at 303-255-7833.*



Thornton Community Garden Registration and Renewal

Name of Garden: _____

Hosting Church / Agency: _____

Name of Property Owner: _____

Physical Address: _____

Primary Contact and Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Secondary Contact and Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Site Details

If existing, when was the garden established? _____

If new, what is the approximate date to develop the garden? _____

How many plots or individual areas will be developed? _____

Will the garden be: Open to the Public Reserved for Congregation Only

Names of food bank(s) your garden will donate food to:

If there is a fence, retaining wall or enclosure or one will be constructed around the garden, what are the measurements of the existing/proposed fence, retaining wall or enclosure?

Dimensions: _____

Signage and fences that are proposed at the garden site may be subject to City Code. For example, fences over 30" require a building permit. Please call Planning at 303-538-7301 for more information.

By signing, I acknowledge that I have read this form, and have the authority to approve the use of a community garden on the property. I also understand that only gardens that are located within the City limits, open to any Thornton residents who want to garden and donate a substantial amount of the yield from the garden to area food banks/pantries are eligible for grants from Keep Thornton Beautiful and water rebates from the City of Thornton. Gardens that receive funds or rebates must report on food grown and donated at the end of the season. The representations I have made are true, that I understand the terms, and I have voluntarily signed this form.

Signature of Property Owner or President of Church Council _____ Date _____

Print Name and Title _____

**Please return this form to the City of Thornton, Neighborhood Services Division
9500 Civic Center Drive, Thornton, CO 80229; or fax to 303-538-7518. For questions call 303-538-7287**