



Application Timeline

Monday August 22 – application released
Sat., September 10, 11am-12:30pm – application info session
Wed. September 21, 6pm-7:30pm – application info session
Tuesday, October 11 – application deadline

All applicants must attend ONE information session.
To RSVP, contact Rayden Sorock (details below).

The Allegheny Grows Community Garden Program

Allegheny Grows, a program of Allegheny County Economic Development, encourages community and workforce development through urban farming and gardening. Through a partnership with Grow Pittsburgh and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Allegheny Grows provides **education, planning, materials and technical assistance over 2 years** for new (and re-emerging) community food gardens in low-to-moderate income communities throughout Allegheny County.

The application that follows will enable our team to evaluate where your group is in the process of starting a community food garden. Those groups that meet the following criteria will be eligible to be considered for **Spring 2017** garden builds:

- Complete application (Parts 1-6) emailed, faxed, or post-marked by **Tuesday October 11, 2016.**
- Attend one information session about the Allegheny Grows program. There are two options listed above.
- Identify at least 6 organized and motivated people in your garden group plus signed Letters of Support
- At least one suitable site for gardening in an income-eligible location
(We can assist with income eligibility assessment)
- Written permission to use a lot owned by a government entity or non-profit organization for min. 5 years
- An established organizational sponsor
- The potential to install a municipal water supply at the site

Note: If you don't meet these criteria, please submit as much information as you have and we will try to help you in other ways. Get in touch early and often throughout the process. The more we know, the better we can assist!

If you need assistance with the application, contact:

Rayden Sorock
Grow Pittsburgh
6587 Hamilton Ave #2W
Pittsburgh PA, 15206
rayden@growpittsburgh.org
412-362-4769 x 113

Application begins on the following page



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

Part 1: CONTACT INFORMATION

Gardens are most successful when multiple people hold leadership positions. Please identify at least three garden coordinators, and designate one as the primary contact for the application. You may use additional paper if necessary.

Primary Contact Person for the Application / Garden Coordinator #1

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Primary Organizational Affiliation: _____

List other organizations in which they hold leadership roles:

Garden Coordinator #2

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Primary Organizational Affiliation: _____

List other organizations in which they hold leadership roles:

Garden Coordinator #3

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Primary Organizational Affiliation: _____

List other organizations in which they hold leadership roles:



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

Part 2: SPONSOR ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Applicants to the Allegheny Grows program must be sponsored by an organized, neighborhood-based group, such as a non-profit, community development corporation, religious institution, neighborhood association, or local government entity.

- a) Name of the organization sponsoring the garden: _____
- b) Year established: _____
- c) How many members belong to your organization? _____
- d) Does your group hold meetings on a regular basis and, if so, how many people attend? _____
- e) Does your group hold events on a regular basis and, if so, what kind?

- f) On average, how many volunteers have supported an event like the ones described in the previous question? _____
- g) Will the sponsor organization be providing any of the following to the garden group?
 - Meeting space
 - Tax exempt status/Fiscal sponsorship
 - Liability insurance
 - Staff support
- h) What food pantry is nearest to the proposed garden? _____
- i) Will you be seeking additional funds to support this project? If yes, please explain: _____

Include a list below of all the organizations (both formal and informal) you know of in your community. Star or highlight the ones you plan to reach out to for support. You may use additional paper if necessary.



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

Part 3: GARDEN SITE INFORMATION

Fill out Part 3 for each garden site you are considering.

Garden site address (or map-block-lot numbers):

*** To find map-block-lot number and other details about the property, visit the Allegheny County Real Estate website: <http://www2.county.allegheny.pa.us/realestate/Default.aspx>*

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Census Tract (Optional): _____

Property Owner's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Mailing address: _____

You must include written permission from the landowner in your application.

Approximate site dimensions (please include units of measurement): Length _____ Width _____

Does at least 500 sq. ft. of the property receive at least six hours of sunlight? Yes No

Has the garden site been tested for lead contamination? Yes No

If yes, what was the result? _____ (in PPM or other)

Does the property have a municipal water source (like a spigot) on site? Yes No

If no, please describe actual or potential water source:

Who is the local water authority in your municipality? _____

Please identify someone at the local water authority who deals with new water line installations:

The Allegheny Grows program cannot pay for water used at the garden. How do you plan to pay for water at the garden? (Select all that may apply. Please include additional information if necessary.)

- the garden group will raise funds to cover the cost
- the property owner will cover the cost
- the sponsor organization will cover the cost
- the water authority will donate the water
- not sure



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Which of the following characterizes the slope of the garden site? (Please check all that apply.)

- Flat terrain (0-5% slope) Gradual (5-10% slope) Moderate (10-20% slope)

Has illegal dumping occurred on the site? Yes No

Was the site ever occupied by a factory, mechanic shop or gas station? Yes No

What was the previous use(s) of the site? (Ask neighbors who have lived nearby for a long time)

Are there tall weeds/growth on the site? Yes No

Is there any knotweed on the site? Yes No I don't know.

Check any wildlife that is present at or near the site:

- Deer Rabbits Groundhogs Other

Was any of the property ever covered with slag, concrete, asphalt, or shale? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Does the site have any of the following other characteristics: rubble, brick coverage, building foundations, unevenness, sink-holes, areas of pooling water, dead trees, etc.? If so, please describe:

Land use of abutting properties (please check all that apply):

- Commercial Residential Vacant

Who currently uses the site and for what purpose(s)? (Visit the garden at different times of day, ask neighbors)

Please include some photos or drawings of the site for reference.



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

Part 5: EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT

- Municipal Contact Person** – identify one representative who will speak to us about your application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

- Letters of support** from each of the following entities:

- Property owner
- Municipal government official
- Sponsor organization described in Part 2
- At least one other supporting organization (Examples: community and economic development organizations, local businesses, after-school and summer programs, Scouting Troops and other civic organizations willing to contribute to the garden.)

- Community Garden Support Letter** signed by at least 15 neighboring residents and business owners who are in favor of the garden. Star or highlight those who are in sight of the garden. (See page 10.)

- List 6 potential participants** who are willing to help establish, organize and maintain the garden. This list can include the garden coordinators listed in Part 1.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

Part 6: AGREEMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

All 3 named garden coordinators (Part 1) are asked to initial each of the following statements.

If selected to participate in the Allegheny Grows Program, I agree to:

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
|-------|-------|-------|--|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Participate in a minimum of two wintertime planning sessions and monthly garden meetings during the spring, summer, and fall |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Recruit two community representatives to attend Grow Pittsburgh's free Garden Primer Class offered in March or April 2017 |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Cooperate with Allegheny Grows and partner organizations to realize my organization's vision for a community garden |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Enter into a site access and land use agreement with Grow Pittsburgh |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Keep the garden in use and productive for at least five years |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Complete participant surveys, weigh and record garden produce yields, and record attendance at the garden |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | Help realize with the values listed on Page 9 |

This application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Primary Contact's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please postmark, fax or email completed application by **Tuesday October 11, 2016**

Mail to: Rayden Sorock
6587 Hamilton Ave #2W
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Email: rayden@growpittsburgh.org

Phone: 412-362-4769 x 113

Fax: 412-362-5019



Application for Allegheny Grows Program Year 2017

VALUES

In January of 2015, Grow Pittsburgh adopted eight values to guide the long-lasting positive impact we may affect through our work within local communities. We include our values here to ensure all applicants are familiar with them. Our participation in your garden will be in accordance.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: prioritizing neighborhood voices to guide programs

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: using, teaching and advocating for restorative practices

EQUITY: working alongside communities to build access and power for all

FISCAL INTEGRITY: making responsible and effective use of available assets

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: supporting everyone's right to access, produce and distribute healthy and culturally appropriate food

RESOURCEFULNESS: creating hands-on opportunities to build individual and community self-sufficiency

SOCIAL JUSTICE: understanding systems of privilege, oppression and racism, and using this knowledge to drive our work

TRANSPARENCY: being accountable by using clear, direct and inclusive communication

