

Frequently Asked Questions

NParks Allotment Gardening Scheme

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Frequently Asked Questions

General

1. What is an allotment garden?

Allotment gardens are areas located within parks and gardens that house gardening plots available for lease to the community to grow their own plants. With most of the population living in high-rise flats with minimal space for gardening within their household footprint, these allotment garden plots provide them with further opportunities to garden. To date, more than 1,700 allotment garden plots have been made available to the community with plans for further expansion.

2. Can I plant anything that I like?

All plants and gardening structures should not exceed 1 metre in standing height (measured from soil level in the planter bed). Gardeners are advised not to plant poisonous plants or those with sap as these plants can cause discomfort and are harmful to the public. Plants that are illegal are not allowed to be planted.

Please also be mindful of the neighbouring plots when planting up your mini garden and ensure that your plants do not encroach into their space. Keep your space clean and tidy for the safety of all your fellow allotment gardeners.

3. Can I use pesticides at the allotment garden plot?

Chemical pesticides, herbicides and fungicides are not allowed to be used at the allotment garden plots as they may kill insects, such as bees and wasps, which play an important role in the pollination process of flowering plants. Such chemicals may also spread to other plots, and may cause adverse reactions to gardeners tending to other plots or public who visit the plots.

4. Where can I store my tools and will there be a CCTV or fencing to monitor and prevent theft in the allotment garden

A storage area is incorporated into each allotment garden planter where tools must be kept when not in use (a separate storage area will be provided for Sengkang Riverside Park instead due to site constraints).

As the individual leasing the plot, you are responsible for the security of items kept within the storage box or brought into the allotment garden plot. NParks will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any items including all produce from the allotment garden plots. There will not be any CCTVs or fencing installed.

Frequently Asked Questions

5. Will water and electricity be provided?

Shared water points are available for use at the allotment garden. No electricity will be provided.

6. Will NParks or their contractors help me to maintain the allotment garden plot if I am unable to do so? Who is responsible/pay for any mosquito breeding summons?

You are required at all times and at your own expense, to maintain the allotment garden plot and its immediate surroundings in a good and presentable condition, including trimming overgrown shrubs, removing weeds, pest-infested plants, dead and damaged plants/products.

NParks will also not be responsible for any instances of mosquito breeding detected by the National Environment Agency (NEA) at the allotment garden plots. You are responsible for taking all precautions and measures to prevent breeding of mosquitoes at your allotment garden plot.

7. What if I am unable to maintain my plot for a period of time?

If you fail to maintain your allotment garden plot, and within the time stipulated by NParks, we reserve the right to terminate the lease, so that the plot can be allocated to another gardener.

8. Who can I approach when there is a beehive or rodents in my plot?

You may contact NParks at www.nparks.gov.sg/feedback to seek assistance.

Frequently Asked Questions

Application Related - General

9. How many plots can I apply for and how many plots can I lease?

Each household is allowed to apply for and lease only 1 allotment garden plot at any one time, regardless of the number of persons in the household.

10. Will submitting multiple applications per household increase my chances of getting a plot?

No. If there are multiple applications received from the same household address, only 1 entry will be considered for balloting.

11. Can I choose the plot to lease?

Plots (waist- or knee- height) are assigned through a balloting system.

12. How would applicants know if they are successful? When can I expect to start gardening after applying for a plot?

All successful applicants will receive a Letter of Offer from NParks. In this Letter of Offer, we will state the date in which you will be able to start gardening on-site.

13. Can you call me back when the allotment plots in the park I am interested in are open for application?

Please check our NParks Allotment Gardens webpage and our social media platforms for updates on available plots and registration details.

14. I am a foreigner, can I apply for an allotment garden plot?

Yes, but Singaporeans and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

15. What is the minimum age to apply for an allotment garden plot?

The minimum age to apply for a plot is 18 years old at the time of application.

Application Related - For Existing Gardeners

16. Can existing gardeners re-apply to continue gardening at their allotment garden plot after the end of the 3-year TOL?

Before the 3-year TOL expires, existing gardeners who have maintained good gardening etiquette will be contacted by NParks officers to offer them renewal of the 3-year TOL. The terms and conditions and fees for the allotment garden plot will remain unchanged.

Frequently Asked Questions

17. What does it mean to maintain good gardening etiquette?

Good gardening etiquette includes keeping the garden neat and clean to maintain the health of the plants, regularly checking for areas in the plot that may collect stagnant water to prevent mosquito breeding and storing items that collect water properly. Having a well-kept and maintained allotment garden plot ensures that it is safe and enjoyable for everyone. More information on gardening etiquette can be found at www.nparks.gov.sg/gardening/gardening-resources/gardening-etiquette.

18. Why are existing gardeners being given the opportunity to renew their gardening plots? Why not keep the existing system of computerised balloting?

We hope to continue fostering a love for gardening by allowing existing gardeners who have maintained good gardening etiquette to renew their allotment garden plots. We will continue making available more plots across the island for new gardeners. New allotment garden plots will also continue being allocated by computerised balloting.

Application Related - For New Gardeners

19. How can new gardeners get an opportunity to secure an allotment garden plot, if existing gardeners are staying on with their plots?

NParks will continue to roll out new allotment garden plots in more parks across Singapore to provide the community with opportunities to garden near their homes. To date, more than 1,000 allotment garden plots have been introduced in 11 parks and gardens across Singapore. Another 1,000 new plots will be added across 18 parks by 2021. With this, there will be a total of over 2,000 allotment garden plots across 23 parks. We will also continue to provide more allotment gardens in the future. More details will be released when ready. All this will allow us to continue fostering a love for gardening among Singaporeans and nurturing a community of gardeners.

20. Out of all the allotment garden plots, how many will NParks renew and how many will be given to new gardeners? Are all gardeners eligible for renewal? How many will be given to new gardeners? Is there a cap for the number of plots that NParks will allow renewal for?

Existing gardeners who have maintained good gardening etiquette will be allowed to renew their allotment garden plots. Should they choose not to continue gardening their plots will be released for balloting. NParks will also continue to provide more allotment garden plots in our parks.

Frequently Asked Questions

21. When can new gardeners apply for allotment garden plots?

More details will be provided when ready. We will be updating the NParks website (www.nparks.gov.sg/gardening/allotment-gardens) and social media sites when plots are open for application.

Payment

22. Can I just pay the fee for 1 year?

No, the allotment garden plot is leased on a 3-year basis. You will need to pay for 3 years at the start of your leasing period.

23. Will I get a refund if I need to end the lease before the third year?

No refund will be given if you decide to terminate the Licence before the lease expires.

24. When must I pay for the plot and what is the payment mode?

A Letter of Offer will be sent to all successful applicants. Payment will be by bank transfer to an NParks bank account or by scanning the unique PayNow QR code provided. The details will be provided in the Letter of Offer.