## NParks Allotment Gardening Scheme

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## <u>General</u>

## 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 1,000 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.

## 5. Will water and electricity be provided?

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

## Frequently Asked Questions

## 6. Will NParks or their contractors help me to maintain the allotment garden plot if I am unable to do so?

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 the allotment garden plots.

#### 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 <u>www.nparks.gov.sg/feedback</u> to seek assistance.

## **Application**

#### 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.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## Payment

#### 16. 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.

#### 17. 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.

#### 18. 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.