

## About the Garden

In 2009, the garden began with one 50' x 50' fenced section. Currently there is approximately 10,000 square feet of garden space as part of the property's open space management plan. The garden space will expand again in 2019 and will be surrounded by a new 8 foot fence. Pest management strategies are utilized in keeping with our organic gardening practices. We are committed to welcoming and assisting new gardeners as part of the community gardening spirit. New plots are now available.

## For More Information

The Columbia Recreation Department encourages you to learn more about the Columbia Community Garden. Please find current garden information packets available at the recreation office, or online at the town's website: [www.columbiact.org](http://www.columbiact.org) under the Columbia Rec Department web link.



## Seeds of the Future

Building community spirit through community gardening can happen when citizens choose to:



- ☒ Grow crops in individual plots side by side with neighbors
- ☒ Work in a cooperative garden plot sharing the work and harvest equally
- ☒ Grow crops to produce food for those in need
- ☒ Teach a family member or friend how to garden
- ☒ Provide assistance to those with disabilities so they may enjoy a gardening experience in our raised bed plot.
- ☒ Volunteer at garden related events
- ☒ Participate in our community garden
- ☒ Composting project.
- ☒ Join informal gatherings/socials (potlucks, Saturday morning garden coffee klatches, cooking demonstrations, etc.)
- ☒ Mentor beginning gardeners
- ☒ Become a master gardener
- ☒ Create garden art projects/crafts
- ☒ Participate in related garden and agricultural opportunities (canning, sustainable backyard gardening techniques, farming, etc.)
- ☒ Assist in the development of a cooperative berry patch where gardeners pool their resources and share in the harvest together.

# Columbia Community Garden



2019

**Szegda Farm**

Szegda Road  
Columbia, CT 06237

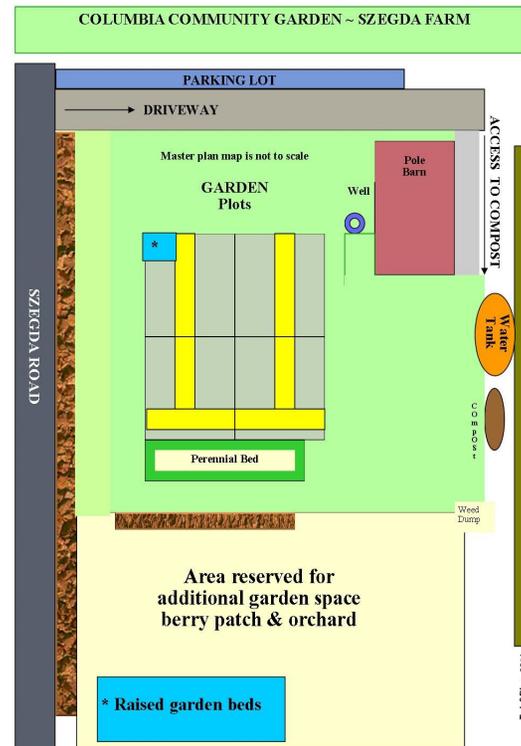
In cooperation with  
the Columbia Rec Department and  
Szegda Farm Management Committee

## Why a Community Garden?

The Szegda Farm Management Plan is a comprehensive document that defines three main goals: conserve and enhance the farm's diverse natural resources; maintain the cultural history of the property; and allow for recreational opportunities for the general public. Detailed objectives were developed so farming could be included as a land management tool to preserve and protect this open space. Citizens are able to enjoy the rewards of community gardening and use the Szegda farmland as an educational resource to learn new backyard gardening and farming techniques.

## The Columbia Rec Department supports the Community Garden

The Recreation Department facilitates garden registration and advertising. They work with the Szegda Farm Management Committee on program coordination and oversight. The goal is to provide more citizens an opportunity to garden. Garden registration information is available after February 1st. If you would like a tour, please contact the recreation office. Our gardeners welcome the opportunity for questions about gardening or to share garden experiences, so if you see us working our plots, stop and say hello.



## About the Garden

In its 11th season, the Community Garden offers 4 sizes of garden plots for individual gardeners. (the minimum size is 10' x 20' for a small plot) The garden area is closed during the off season, but depending on the weather, the planting of early and late season crops is an option. New for 2019 will be the installation of an 8' high deer fence. Garden plants thrive from a full days sun and are protected within the secure area.

## Eligibility

Registration is required for a community garden plot. Applications will be processed on a first come first served basis through the Columbia Recreation Department. As a result of a recent garden expansion project, there will be additional garden plots available in 2019. In order to secure a plot, registration is encouraged prior to April 1st. Applicants must be willing to maintain their assigned garden plot throughout the season. Individuals under the age of 18 must have an adult co-sign their application and be an on-site participant with the youth at the garden. Individuals must comply with garden rules and organic practices or risk forfeiting garden privileges. The annual garden plot fee is set prior to the garden season. The fee must be paid at the time of registration. All registered gardeners become members of the Columbia Community Garden. Participants will discover a friendly and helpful group of fellow gardeners who are willing to assist you get started and offer their encouragement. We hope you will join us at the garden!

