

# ADA VILLAGE KIDS GARDEN

2017

“From seed to harvest to table...the complete garden experience!”

## Information and Registration Packet

\*\*\*Optional 4-H Junior Master Gardener Certification\*\*\*

**Many Thanks to our Sponsors, Donors and Partners!**



Ada Township  
Downtown Development Authority  
Bike it Walk it Shop it



**Ada Township Parks and Recreation Department**

P.O. 370, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada, MI 49301

Phone: 616-676-0520 fax: 616-676-5870 e-mail: [mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com)



# Ada Village Kids' Garden 2017

## General Information



**The Ada Village Kids' Garden** is a local initiative to engage area youth, ages 9-12, in vegetable gardening, healthy lifestyles, business and service. The Ada Kids' Garden program consists of hands-on activities in the garden, classroom instruction, and involvement with the Ada Farmers' Market. Activities include planting, maintaining the garden, harvesting crops and selling produce at the Farmers' Market. Extra produce will be donated to local food banks. This year participants will again have the option of participating in the **4-H Junior Master Gardener (JMG)** certification program offered through a partnership with the MSU Kent County Extension!

**Location and Staffing:** The Kids' Garden is located next to the parking lot of the *Community Church* in the Village of Ada (7239 Thornapple River Dr.). Activities take place at the Garden, the church building, & at the Farmers' Market held in the church parking lot. Instructors include staff from the Ada Township Parks & Recreation Department and MSU Extension office (4-H Program), as well as volunteers from the MSU Master Gardener Program. Parents and past *Gardeners* may also volunteer to help.

**Schedule:** The Ada Kids' Garden program is offered on Tuesdays from April 18 to September 26. This schedule enables participants to be involved in all aspects of a garden. Youth will plan and plant the garden, harvest, sell, and cook the produce and also prepare the garden for the winter. We encourage youth to attend all sessions, but realize that other activities or family obligations may cause some absences.



<b>Spring:</b>	April 18 – June 6	4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
<b>Summer:</b>	June 13 – Aug. 29	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*
<b>Fall:</b>	Sept. 12 – Sept. 26	4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**JMG Certification:** April 18 – Sept. 26 Attendance at 9 JMG program days required for certification.



**\*\*Junior Master Gardener (JMG) certification:** JMG is an international youth gardening program designed to encourage a love of gardening & an appreciation for the environment ([www.jmgkids.us](http://www.jmgkids.us)). Cost for JMG certification includes JMG book for \$10. Youth must attend the following dates: 4/18, 5/2, 5/30, 6/6, 6/20, 7/18, 8/15, 8/29, 9/19.

**\*Summer Market Days:** Garden kids will also sign up for 3 days during the summer to sell their garden produce at the Ada Farmers' Market from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Parents will be needed to help with the Market booth.



**Fees:** **\$150** (April through Sept.) Includes instruction, supplies and snacks  
\$160 includes JMG certification & book

### Discounts and Scholarships:

- Ada Township residents can receive a 10% discount on their total fee.
- Scholarships may be available to cover part of the program fee. Applicants must be enrolled in the reduced/free lunch program at their school.



### To Register:

**Submit registration forms and payment prior to the start of the session to:**

By mail: Ada Township Parks and Recreation Dept., P.O. Box 370, Ada, MI 49301

In person: Ada Township office, 7330 Thornapple River Dr. or Ada Park office, 1180 Buttrick Ave.

\*Payment can be made with cash, check or money order, payable to Ada Township.

\*Please complete one form for each child.



# ADA VILLAGE KIDS' GARDEN

## 2017 Calendar and Schedule

### Program Format:

The Ada Kids' Garden program is offered on Tuesdays from April 18 to September 26. The program meets after school in the spring and fall and in the morning throughout the summer.

<b>Spring:</b>	April 18 – June 6	4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
<b>Summer:</b>	June 13 – Aug. 29	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*
<b>Fall:</b>	Sept. 12 – Sept. 26	4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

\*Market Days: Garden kids will also sign up to stay and sell their garden produce at the Ada Farmers' Market from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for 3 days during the summer. Parents will be needed to help supervise the Market booth.



**Junior Master Gardener (JMG) certification:** To receive 4-H JMG Certification, youth must attend 9 dates throughout the entire gardening season. JMG dates are shown below:

4/18, 5/2, 5/30, 6/6, 6/20, 7/18, 8/15, 8/29, and 9/19.

### **Ways that parents can help:**



\*Gardeners should be dressed for working outside in the garden. Please wear clothes and shoes that can get muddy, bring rain gear or a sweatshirt depending on the weather.

\*Participate in "Parent Help Days" (see schedule on next page).

\*Sign up to serve as a "Parent Volunteer" at the Farmer's Market booth for several shifts (11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

\*Assist on non-scheduled days to help weed and water the garden.



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# ANA VILLAGE KIDS GARDEN

## Schedule & Topics



Required dates for Junior Master Gardener certification marked in **Green**

\*\*Indicates days when **parent help** is especially needed. Parents are welcome to help any time.



### Spring

**April 18- June 6 4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

- April 18** Garden planning, organic gardening, start indoor seed plantings
- \*\*April 25 Field Trip to Koetsier's Greenhouse
- \*\***May 2** Soils, water, and composting with a guest speaker:  
do soil testing, spread compost in garden
- \*\*May 9 Planting prep: put up fences, mark rows
- May 16 Plant cool season crops
- May 23 Plant warm season crops
- May 30** Plant growth and development: make plant seed balls, dissect a plant
- June 6** Environmental horticulture/ecology (monarch butterflies & milkweed)



### Summer

**June 13- Aug. 29 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Plus 3 Market shifts: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

- \*\*June 13 Food justice/food pantry with guest speaker, Garden planning, spread mulch in garden
- June 20** Landscape horticulture/garden planning: tour Farmers' Market
- June 27 Visit by beekeeper, harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market.
- July 11 Harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market.
- July 18** Insects (beneficial and insect pests) and plant diseases: harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- July 25 Harvest /prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- Aug. 1 Native plants, harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- Aug. 8 Harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- Aug. 15** Fruits & nuts: taste a variety of seasonal fruits, make a delicious & healthy snack, harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- Aug. 22 Harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market
- Aug. 29** Vegetables & herbs, harvest/prepare produce, sell at Farmers' Market



### Fall

**Sept. 12- Sept. 26 4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

- Sept. 12 Healthy eating/cooking, harvest garden produce and cook with it,
- Sept. 19** Life skills/careers/food preservation with guest speaker, harvest produce, make a treat using ingredients from the garden
- Sept. 26 Garden close out, pull out garden plants, remove structures, prepare garden for the winter.





## Ada Township Parks & Recreation Department Ada Village “Kids’ Garden” 2017 Registration Form




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**Participant**      Last Name                                      First Name                                      Date of Birth                                      Gender                                      Today's Date

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**Parent/Guardian**      Last Name                                      First Name

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Street Address                                      City                                      State                                      Zip Code

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Primary Phone                                      Secondary Phone                                      Email

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Emergency Contact First Name                                      Last Name                                      Relationship

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Primary Phone                                      Secondary Phone                                      Authorized to pick up? Y/N

**Health Information** - Please list any medical, physical, emotional or behavioral conditions that we need to be aware of (continue on back, if needed): \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees and Payment:**

Program	Fees	Amount Due			
Ada Kids' Garden	\$150				
With JMG certif.	\$160				
<b>Discounts</b>			Cash / Check #	Date Paid	Conf. #
Ada Residents 10%					
Scholarship*					
<b>Total Due</b>		<b>\$</b>			

\* Scholarships may be available to cover part of the program fee. Applicants must be enrolled in the reduced/free lunch program at their school. Contact Ada Park office to apply.

Payment due with Registration form prior to start of program.      Make Checks Payable to Ada Township:

**General Liability and Release:**

I grant permission for my child to participate in the Kid's Garden Program and to engage in all related garden, parks and recreation activities, except as noted. The health information I provided is correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to assume the risk of such activities and agree to hold harmless Ada Township, its staff and representatives from any loss or damage to my personal property and/or loss or injury to my participating child. I authorize the Ada Township Parks and its representatives to use photographs of my child for promotional purposes.

**Signature of Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_