

# Chester County Raised Garden Program

By Therese Mauchline

Have you seen this sign at either the Honey Brook Township Building on the hill behind the building on Suplee Road or at the Honey Brook Community Library (HBCL) on the north side of the parking lot on Compass Road? These places participate in the raising of food for the Chester County Food Bank. The food raised in these beds go directly to the community for distribution, through such organizations as the Honey Brook Food Pantry, Steeple to People, Shepherd's Kitchen, and the Salvation Army in Glenmoore.



Why has the Township and the HBCL made such a commitment? One in fourteen people in Chester County are hungry according to the Chester County Food Bank (CCFB), which means they don't have access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. It would take a single parent working a minimum-wage job 80 hours per week to sustainably live in Chester County. The CCFB has indicated that a living wage in Chester County for a family of three with one working adult is \$3,739 per month. Our community needs us! And to continue to make this effort happen, **WE NEED YOU!!**

The gardens grow food for three seasons of the year. This requires the seeds or plants to be planted, watered, weeded, and harvested. Currently, one or two people do this job at the Township, and they need help. How can you help? By giving one day a week of your time that works with your schedule! No need to come alone; bring the family! The crops are usually simple, lettuce, spinach, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots. The area isn't very large (60 square feet), and tending it takes anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour for weeding, watering, and sometimes debugging. **No gardening knowledge is needed. It is an organic garden bed so no pesticide or insecticide is spread.** How often are you asked for a small commitment of time compared to the payoff, which is food for the hungry?

-----Fill out and return to: Honey Brook Township, P.O. Box 1281, Honey Brook, PA 19344-----

## Honey Brook Township Garden Volunteer Information

Yes, I and/or my family would like to help in the garden in 2016! Name: \_\_\_\_\_

One Time       As needed      \_\_\_\_\_ Best Phone Number to contact

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address      Please indicate your available week(s) (check any that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> May 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/> May 8-14	<input type="checkbox"/> May 15-21	<input type="checkbox"/> May 22-28	<input type="checkbox"/> May 29-Jun 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Jun 5-11	<input type="checkbox"/> Jun 12-18	<input type="checkbox"/> Jun 19-25	<input type="checkbox"/> Jun 26-Jul 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Jul 3-9
<input type="checkbox"/> Jul 10-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Jul 17-23	<input type="checkbox"/> Jul 24-30	<input type="checkbox"/> Jul 31-Aug 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Aug 7-13
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug 14-20	<input type="checkbox"/> Aug 21-27	<input type="checkbox"/> Aug 28-Sep 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Sep 4-10	<input type="checkbox"/> Sep 11-17
<input type="checkbox"/> Sept 18-24	<input type="checkbox"/> Sep 25-30	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 2-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 9-15	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 16-22
<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 23-29	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 30-Nov 5			

Questions? Please contact the Honey Brook Township Administrative Office at 610-273-3970, or e-mail the Park & Rec Committee at [tmauchline@honeybrooktp.com](mailto:tmauchline@honeybrooktp.com). If you would like to help at the HBCL, please contact Jennifer Spade at 610-273-3303 or [jspade@ccls.org](mailto:jspade@ccls.org).