

**South Seeds’ Croft adopt-a-raised bed scheme 2019**

If you are interested in adopting a raised bed at the Croft, near Queen’s Park recreation ground, for this growing season (April – November 2019), please read through the information below to check that the scheme is right for you. To apply, please complete the form starting on page 2 and either hand it in to the South Seeds office (514 Victoria Road) or email it to croft@southseeds.org

**HOW THE ADOPT A RAISED BED SCHEME WORKS**

**South Seeds will provide to crofters:**

* A means of accessing the Croft in your own time
* A raised bed including soil for your own use for the 2019 growing season (April to November)
* Size may vary but raised beds will be a minimum of 1x1m. You will be able to keep all the produce that you grow
* Hand tools and gloves for working the raised bed
* A selection of vegetable seeds
* A seedling tray and some compost to get your seeds started in your own home after the initial planning session in April. We will also provide seed potatoes, if you wish to try growing these
* Regular vegetable growing support sessions throughout the season

**Crofters must:**

* Applicants living up to 20-minutes’ walk away from the site will be considered to live in the vicinity of the Croft (which is by Queen’s Park recreation ground)
* Attend at least three out of four of the Croft induction sessions listed on the application form (dates on pages 3+4)
* Apply the knowledge gained from the induction sessions to improve your growing success (this includes making time to plan the layout of your plot, what you are going to grow and starting off seedlings after the first induction session)
* Make every effort to grow using organic methods, with no use of herbicides, pesticides or fertilisers (careful use of slug pellets will be ok)
* Make every effort to maintain soil fertility using only organic, sustainably-sourced products
* Help to maintain the garden as a whole, and keep it tidy
* Use any tools and materials provided by South Seeds correctly and do not take these away from the site
* Not give out access codes to anyone else, and be responsible for anyone you bring in or allow to enter the garden
* Use the garden in a safe and responsible manner at all times
* Report any incidents, maintenance issues or potential dangers to South Seeds
* Hand your raised bed back to South Seeds at the end of the season (November 2019). Clear the bed and leave it in the same condition that it was handed over to you in April

**The Croft adopt-a-raised bed – application form**

Please fill in the form below to apply for a raised bed. Decisions on allocation of the raised beds are made by South Seeds’ board and are based on the information you give below.

We have a few larger raised beds which may suit small groups, however please note the person completing this form will be accountable for ensuring that all group members receive information and communications about the Croft sent out by South Seeds.

The raised beds require regular attention such as watering, weeding and pest control. Crofters should attend their raised beds at least once per week and more often in dry weather. Crofters will be asked to indicate their attendance at the Croft on a shared notice board. This will help us understand when crofters are on holiday and raised beds need watering. Beds which are abandoned for more than three weeks will be reallocated.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Home telephone |  |
| Mobile telephone |  |
| Email |  |
| *We will send out all general communications and information about the Croft by email as this is the most time-efficient way for us to reach 27 crofters – please make sure you check your junk mail folder regularly so you don’t miss anything!*  If you don’t use email please let us know what method of contact is best for you (any information documents will be sent by post): | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *If applying on behalf of a group:*  Name of group |  |
| Name of other members of the group |  |

1. Why do you want a raised bed?

(no more than 300 words)

2. Please tell us about your previous experience of growing fruit and/or veg (if any)? Also what access do you have to any other growing space?

(no more than 300 words)

3. Do you have any ideas of what you want to grow if you are successful in getting a plot? If so, please let us know your ideas below:

(no more than 300 words)

4. Crofters will be expected to attend *both induction sessions 1 and 2* and *at least one of the remaining two* induction sessions at the Croft. There is a choice of two different dates/times for each induction session to enable as many Crofters as possible to attend. Please select the sessions you would like to attend below (choose one date/time for each session):

**Induction session 1: How to plan your planting** (compulsory)

Our gardener will let you know what grows best and advise you on how you can make the best of the space in your raised bed. Each participant will make an individual planting plan and we will provide a selection of seeds, seedling trays and compost to take home and get your seeds started indoors.

☐ Wednesday 3 April at 6:30pm OR

☐ Friday 5 April at 2:00pm (both at the Croft by Queen’s Park recreation ground))

**Induction session 2: Planting out and maintenance** (compulsory)

Our gardener will show you how to transplant your seedlings and how to directly sow some seeds into your raised bed at the Croft. You’ll also be shown what you will need to do to support those plants to grow, for example: when and how to water, when and how to add additional nutrients to the soil, whether any vertical support is needed and any pruning which may help the plant fruit.

☐ Wednesday 24 April at 6:30pm OR

☐ Friday 26 April at 2:00pm (both at the Croft by Queen’s Park recreation ground)

**Induction session 3: How to keep weeds and pests at bay**

Our gardener will show you how to identify weeds and damage from pests and the best way to remove or prevent both.

☐ Wednesday 1 May at 6:30pm OR

☐ Friday 3 May at 2:00pm (both at the Croft by Queen’s Park recreation ground)

**Induction session 4: How to use the composting facilities**

Find out what you can and can’t compost. We will show you how make your own compost and how to use it to add nutrients to your raised bed and improve your vegetables.

☐ Wednesday 8 May at 6:30pm OR

☐ Friday 10 May at 2:00pm (both at the Croft by Queen’s Park recreation ground)

5. Is there anything else that you think you could bring to the experience or you think it would be useful for us to know about you?

(no more than 300 words)

**To submit your application**

Please return this form to South Seeds by email to croft@southseeds.org or drop it in to 514 Victoria Road, G42 8BG (open between 9.30 and 4.30 on weekdays).We look forward to hearing from you. We are unable to consider forms received after **9am on Monday 4th March 2019**. We aim to have contacted the successful applicants by Monday the 11th March, for those who miss out of this opportunity we will share information about our other vegetable growing opportunities on the southside.

**Still have questions?**

Call South Seeds on 0141 636 3959 or email croft@southseeds.org. There’s lots more information about South Seeds on [www.southseeds.org](http://www.southseeds.org) (you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter too) or why not drop in to the office, at the park end of Victoria Road on a weekday between 9.30am and 4.30pm, to meet the friendly team?

