

**South Seeds’ Croft adopt-a-raised bed scheme 2021**

If you are interested in adopting a raised bed at the Croft, near Queen’s Park recreation ground, for this growing season (May – November 2021), 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. The deadline is **9am on Monday 26 April 2021.**

**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 2021 growing season (May 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
* Induction and regular vegetable growing Support sessions throughout the season. The dates will be arranged depending on relaxation of COVID restrictions.

**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 the Croft Induction and Support sessions (see above )
* Apply the knowledge gained from the support sessions to improve your growing success (this includes making time to plan the layout of your plot, what you are going to grow)
* Make every effort to grow using organic methods, with no use of herbicides, pesticides or fertilisers (careful use of organic 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 2021). Clear the bed and leave it in the same condition that it was handed over to you in May

**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.

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 should let people with neighbouring raised beds know if they are to be away on holiday etc. so the beds can be watered during dry spells. Also let South Seeds know if you have to give up the bed for any reason, so it can be reallocated.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| 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 all crofters – please make sure you check your junk mail folder regularly, so you don’t miss anything important!*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): |

❑ Please tick if you live within a 20 minute walk of the Croft community garden on Queen’s Park Recreation Ground.

Answer questions 1- 5:

**1.** Why do you want a raised growing bed?

(No more than 150 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 150 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 150 words)

**4.** Pre COVID, four group sessions for Induction & Support were offered with specific dates and times. Last year, lockdown prevented this because of restrictions in meeting out of doors. Crofters were given a “one off” Induction session in a one-to-one meeting, which tried to cover all the basic information.

This year, we are planning to hold inductions in May, if restrictions relax enough. We would like to run them in small groups this year, so you get to meet other crofters. Also we would like you to come to two induction sessions before you start, so you don’t have to remember everything in a single session. We are unable to allocate your raised bed until you have been fully inducted. The induction will cover the following topics:

**How to plan your planting**

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.

**Planting out and maintenance**

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.

❑ Please tick the box if you will participate in outdoor induction sessions with other participants, if restrictions allow.

**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 150 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 (knock the door between 9.30am and 4.30pm on weekdays and 10am and 2pm on Saturdays).We look forward to hearing from you. We are unable to consider forms received after **9am on Monday 26 April 2021**. We aim to have contacted the successful applicants by very early May, for those who miss out of this opportunity we will share information the other opportunities we have.

**Still have questions?**

Call South Seeds on 0141 636 3959 (leave an answerphone message and we will get back to you) 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).

**South Seeds**

514 Victoria Road Glasgow, G42 8BG

South Seeds is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation,

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www.southseeds.org

