

Community Garden Guidelines

The mission of Community Gardens in the Town of Fairfield is to provide a limited number of garden plots of varying sizes, sited on public land, and to make them available to all individuals and their families who reside in the Town of Fairfield. These plots are for the sole purpose of the cultivation of vegetables, herbs and flowers by the assigned plot holders who are encouraged to follow organic and sustainable gardening practices. The aim is to offer a communal, recreational and learning experience through the exchange of horticultural knowledge with each other, which is healthy and nourishing for the body, the mind and the land itself. Produce may be grown for personal consumption or gifted to those in need.

1. Only Fairfield residents will be assigned a garden plot. Assignment of plots will be made by the Town of Fairfield, who will also maintain a Waiting List of gardeners. Gardeners will be required to fill out an application.
2. Community Gardens located in a Town of Fairfield public park are subject to Rules and Regulations of the Town of Fairfield public parks and such Rules and Regulations will accommodate the guidelines of the community garden.
3. Each plot size is 10'x20' but may be divided according to the needs of individual gardeners. Individuals and local organizations may be assigned up to 2 plots. Assigned plot owners are the primary users of the plot(s).
4. All gardeners must begin use of their assigned plot(s) by May 15th. If assigned plot(s) are not prepared by May 30th, the assigned plot(s) may be re-assigned to the next person on the waiting list.

If a gardener from the previous season is unable to maintain their garden for the current season, they are to contact the Town of Fairfield, who may then request assistance for the gardener to maintain their plot(s) from other gardeners. If the gardener is unable to maintain their garden for a second year, their plot(s) will be assigned to the next person on the waiting list.

5. No herbicides or non-organic pesticides are to be used in the garden. Fertilizers may be lightly used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
6. In the interest of all gardeners, regular maintenance and weeding is required by each gardener. Vegetation should be cut back annually to less than 3 feet and should be grown as not to shade other gardens.
7. To prevent damage to perimeter fencing, nothing should be grown or attached to the fence. Gardeners with plots bordering the perimeter fencing will have the responsibility to maintain the fence area.
8. Water spigots should be turned off when finished watering and the hoses replaced.
9. Rocks, compost and non-composted vegetation should be placed in designated areas.
10. Gates should be kept closed at all times to prevent wildlife from entering.
11. Trash should be removed from the garden and disposed of properly. There is no regularly scheduled trash pick up at the garden; therefore gardeners are responsible for trash brought into the garden.
12. Excess produce placed on the picnic table shall be made available for food bank donation.
13. Fundraising events to support the gardens by improving conditions and facilities may be held with the majority agreement of the gardeners and the approval of the Town of Fairfield.
14. Gardeners who have maintained their plots in accordance with these guidelines will have the right to retain their assigned plots from the previous year if so desired.