

Marlborough Conservation Commission

Cider Knoll Community Garden

Location: 525 Stow Road.

Conservation Office: (508)-460-3768

Rules and Regulations

Your compliance with the regulations below will help everyone have an enjoyable and prosperous garden. Failure to comply with any regulations posted by Marlborough Conservation Commission (MCC) during the season will result in a loss of present and future gardening privileges.

1. The garden is open to the public, but public is not permitted to enter into any of the garden plots except when invited by the gardener. Public is permitted on the paths, trails, and the main access road outside the fence. Gardeners and invited guest are invited into the garden fenced area.
2. Garden plots are issued through the Marlborough Conservation Commission (MCC). A fee of \$25.00 for a full 20' x 10' plot; and \$15 for a 10'x10' plot, per growing season is assessed to cover plowing, staking, fence repair, and compost expenses to be coordinated by the MCC. This fee is not refundable. Plot sizes are approximate. Plantings must stay within the marked stakes for each plot.
3. Plots are assigned every **February/March** with payment due at the time of plot reservation. Gardeners from the previous season have the first choice of plots the following year. The MCC reserves the right to limit the number of plots assigned to any one person.
4. By **June 15**, if a reserved plot does not show clear evidence of active gardening, the plot may be reassigned to someone on the waiting list by the MCC.
5. Each gardener must clear his or her plot of corner stakes, fencing, trellises, string and all inorganic materials before **Nov. 15**. Gardeners who fail to clear their plots by Nov. 15st may be subject to a non-refundable clean up fee.
6. All water collection/storage containers must be capped so we don't increase the mosquito population or attract rodents.
7. The garden area is open dawn until dusk, seven days a week.
8. No animal traps or poisons are allowed to be set by individuals. If pest control appears necessary the Conservation Commission, with input from the Garden Stewards, will determine the best method for pest control and notify all gardeners of the process.
9. No permanent fixtures may be installed in a plot. Temporary, seasonal fences may be installed. Fences shall be installed in a manner which will not trap birds, dragonflies, or other large insects. There will be a fence surrounding the entire garden. Any structures in the gardens must not create shade to an adjacent garden. Any structure must be set as far back from the perimeter as it is high.
10. Several varieties of snakes (garter, milk, ring-neck, etc.) and pickerel frogs are common. They are harmless. Do not handle, harm, or harass them in any way. Encourage kids to observe them and watch where they go. We have no poisonous snakes in Marlborough.

11. Only biodegradable mulches or removable plastic sheets are to be used.
12. No planting of invasive vegetable, herb, or flower species.
13. The gardens will be planted and maintained as **organic gardens**, which means you may use manure or other natural materials approved for organic use. (See links below for more information)
14. Gardeners must keep all tools and gardening supplies within their assigned garden plots. Each gardener is responsible for keeping the aisle and area surrounding the plot free and clean of weeds, trash and tools. We will provide a compost area for gardeners, only non-diseased plants should be placed there. More information on compost procedures will be developed and posted at the compost area.
15. When leaving the garden, check to see if you are the last person inside. If so, please make sure the gate is closed and the water is OFF.
16. Water is provided ONLY via the on-site water spigot and hose.
17. Gardeners must follow all local, state and federal laws and regulations.
18. Children ages 12 or under must be supervised at all times and accompanied by an adult.
19. NO pets in garden area, pets in conservation land must be on leash.
20. Amplified sound is not permitted except through headphones.
21. All plot renters must sign the city's waiver form.
22. All persons working in a plot are subject to the MCC's posted rules and regulations. Failure to comply may result in the loss of the assigned gardening plot and gardening privileges.

Plots need to be weeded and ready for planting by June 1st, planted by June 15th, and put to bed by November 15th. We are happy for the few who want to tackle extended season gardening, but we don't want the gardens looking untidy all winter.

These rules may be amended from time to time as necessary and with the approval of the conservation commission. All garden plot holders will be given any amended rules and regulations.

Useful links for organic gardening:

Snail Control: http://63.249.122.224/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/snail_control_handout.pdf

Mulch: <http://www.organicgardening.com/learn-and-grow/mulch>

Healthy Soil: <http://www.organicgardening-101.com/healthy-soil.html>

Soil testing: <http://soiltest.umass.edu/services>

General Websites:

<http://www.organicgardening.com/learn-and-grow>

<http://www.communitygarden.org>