

Wareham Community Garden
<https://warehamcommunitygarden.org/>

We are fortunate to have such wonderful land for a community garden and extend great thanks to the A.D. Makepeace Company. We need to be careful stewards of the land. We offer local residents access to garden space, local food production, educational programs and community. We appreciate your cooperation and community spirit to make this a successful program. These guidelines are designed to help the garden run smoothly for all.

1. **Annual membership & Plot Use Period:** Annual membership and plot use period begin when first registered or at spring renewal meeting (late March) and end with final clean-up of plot(s) November 15th. "Plots" refers to raised beds, as well as in-ground plots. Annual membership fee is \$35.00, non-refundable. Submit fee with completed membership form. This fee allows you one plot for the season, with soil, water.
Make checks payable to: Wareham Community Gardens
Send checks to:
Wareham Community Gardens
PO Box 185
Wareham, MA 02571
2. **Work Commitment:** Gardeners are expected to contribute 4 hours of work for the well-being of the Community Garden. Hours of service may be fulfilled at scheduled work days in the garden or on the honor system by signing in and out on a clipboard in the shed. A list of needed work will be posted in the garden shed. Work days will be used to maintain the general garden area.
3. **Latest Planting Date:** Please have plots planted, at least in part, by June 15th. Please contact us if you will not have your garden at least underway by then and we will reassign it or plant food in it for our local food pantry.
4. **Plot Maintenance:** Plot maintenance is the responsibility of the individual gardener. Please keep your area free of weeds. If you will not be able to tend your garden for 10 days due to illness or travel, contact the warehamcommunitygarden@gmail.com. If possible, find someone to water, weed and harvest as needed. Make sure this person knows precisely which plot is yours. Harvest your vegetables in a timely manner. Rotting produce attracts insects and predators. Donate extra produce to the Food Pantry. If a plot appears to be untended or unharvested, you will be contacted by the Garden steward by email or by phone. If your plot is not cleaned up within two weeks after that contact, it will be reassigned.
4. **Path Maintenance:** Keep paths clear of rocks, weeds or other debris. Be sure your plants stay inside your plot. We have the pathways mowed regularly and if your plants are in the paths, they may be mowed!
5. **Water & Hoses:** Hoses must be coiled and off the ground after each use to avoid their being chopped by the mowers. Water faucet must be turned off at the conclusion of watering, we pay for this water. Be careful not to drag the hoses through other peoples' gardens.

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6. **Wheel Barrels:** We have provided a wheel barrel or two, please take care not to overload or stress the carts and return them to the front of the garden when you are through for others to more easily access.
7. **Fertilizer & Pesticides:** The gardens are organic, so do NOT use “chemical” fertilizers or non-organic pesticides. Plastic mulch is allowed but any non-organic mulch must be removed at the end of the season. If you have any questions about products, please consult with garden management at warehamcommunitygarden@gmail.com
8. **Plant Debris & Compost:** Place all plant debris in the compost bins, following directions which are posted in the shed. Diseased plant material should be removed from the garden and disposed of in your trash at home. Weeds and weed seeds should not be placed in the compost.
9. **Plant restrictions:** Plant perennials at your own risk, because we cannot guarantee you will have the same bed another year. It will be your responsibility to remove perennials if your bed is reassigned. No wildflowers, please. Plant vines and tall plants only if they will not interfere with a neighboring gardener. (For example: Winter squashes send out long runners, and sunflowers cast shade.)
10. **Water Usage, helpful hints to maintain a healthy water while conserving water**
 - a. Water in afternoon or morning if possible--if you water too late in the day, plants may stay damp all night and be more susceptible to diseases such as mold and rot.
 - b. Water beneath plants whenever possible rather than spray from above. Tomatoes, peas, beans, melons, and squash are all more susceptible to diseases like late blight when their leaves are wet, especially in muggy or humid weather. Sprinkling from above also usually results in a wet soil surface but water rarely gets down to the root zone of the plant.
 - c. Mulch, Mulch, Mulch!!! Mulching has so many benefits, but soil moisture retention is one of the biggest. Mulch will reduce the amount of water your plants need AND reduce the frequency of water you will have to tend to. A simple layer of straw or buckwheat hulls, does wonders. One of the very best mulches we have, for free, is the eelgrass that washes up on our beaches. This never contains weed seeds and provides great weed suppression and water retention.
 - d. Reducing the amount of times you have to water not only reduces the amount of time you need to spend on this, but it also reduces the amount of time that water stays on your plants' leaves. This is important at keeping diseases at bay. The more time your plants are wet, the more time mold and bacterial spores have to germinate.
 - e. Gaskets, PLEASE check the gaskets on your hoses and make sure there are no leaks.
 - f. Diligence, turn off water when you are done with it! Even a slow drip, is a waste of water that we have to pay for.
11. **Other:** Respect other gardeners' plots as you would like them to respect yours. Do not take plants or produce from their plots or allow your weeds to invade their space. Do not

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bring illegal substances to the garden or dogs off leash. There is no smoking in the garden area. Don't leave open containers of standing water in the garden as they are perfect mosquito breeders. Please report theft, vandalism, or unusual activities to us at warehamcommunitygarden@gmail.com

Garden Contacts:

Communications, Hannah Traggis: warehamcommunitygarden@gmail.com
Treasurer, Sandy Slavin: asslavin@aim.com
Hospitality, Anne Kirshmann and Margaret Ishihara: annekir@comcast.net and margaretishihara@gmail.com
Senior gardening expert, Dick Wheeler: wheelerauk1@gmail.com
Overseer, Linda Burke: lburke@admakepeace.com
Maintenance, Chris Ierardi: cierardi@admakepeace.com

Check the website: <https://warehamcommunitygarden.org/>
or like us on Facebook to receive all garden updates.