

CHATHAM COMMUNITY GARDEN REGULATIONS

(Revised March 4, 2015)

1. All garden plotheholders must be Chatham residents or non-resident taxpayers of the Town of Chatham. Plotheholders will be held responsible for the behavior of their guests in the garden.
2. Individual garden plots must be substantially planted by June 1st of each year, or the plot will be reassigned.
3. The four raised beds in the garden are reserved for those with significant physical limitations only and will be assigned as such, by lottery if necessary.
4. It will be the responsibility of each gardener to keep his or her plot free of weeds and debris and to keep clear the paths adjacent to his or her plot. It is important that weeds not be allowed to go to seed. All waste material must be removed promptly by the gardener. If a plot becomes unkempt in the opinion of the Garden Manager, the gardener will be given one week's notice to clean it up. After that, the plot will be reassigned or tilled in.
5. Gardeners are required to assist with keeping common areas of the Garden clear of weeds including the outside fence perimeter, lay wood chips from time to time, assist with spring start-up, assist with autumn shut-down and other duties as requested by the Garden Manager(s) from time to time. It is anticipated that a minimum of 12 hours of volunteer work will be needed from each full plotheholder & 6 hours from each half plotheholder. Hours may change based on need at the discretion of the Garden Manager(s).
6. All soil amendments, insect and weed controls must be organic. Non-organic chemicals will are not permitted. A list of approved organic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides is available from the Garden Manager. Any other substances, whether chemical or biological in nature, must be specifically approved by the Garden Manager.
7. Personal tools should never be left in the garden. Community garden tools must be returned to the shed after every use. The shed is for the storing of community tools such as hoses and wheelbarrows, and is not to be used for the storage of personal tools.
8. Running water may not be left unattended and should be used as sparingly as possible. Sprinklers, soaker and drip hoses, and hose timers are not allowed. Watering will not be permitted between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2 p.m. except with the permission of the Garden Manager.

9. No pets or alcohol are allowed in the garden or on community garden property.
10. Trellises may be used, and tall crops planted, only where they will not unreasonably shade neighboring garden plots.
11. No individual fencing will be allowed around the garden plots.
12. The garden will be open between sunrise and sunset. The parking lot will be chained at sunset and no parking will be permitted overnight.
13. Gardeners will be given a key for the garden's gate lock, and must agree that the key will not be duplicated or given to anyone without the permission of the Garden Manager. A fee will be assessed for replacement of a lost key. The garden gates must be kept closed and locked at all times when there are no gardeners in the garden.
14. Parking shall be in the designated parking area only. There will be no parking along Lime Hill Road, on Main Street, or in the Agway parking lot.
15. To be eligible for the use of a garden plot, each garden plot holder and any helper or volunteer must sign a liability release form and submit it to the Chatham Community Garden Association YEARLY.
16. Failure to abide by these regulations by a garden plot holder or his or her guest shall be brought to the plot holder's attention by The Board of Directors. Further violation of these rules shall result in the eviction of the gardener. An appeal may be taken to the Advisory Board of the Chatham Community Garden Association, but the decision of the Board, after consideration of the matter, shall be final. Any plot holder evicted from the garden shall not be eligible for a plot for a period of two years following the eviction.
17. Dues must be paid by January 31st of each year.
18. All requests for plot changes for the next season from current plot holders must be submitted to the Secretary of The Board of Directors in writing or email. Plot change requests will be considered in date order received as plots are available. A request does **not** guarantee that a plot change will be made.
19. The Chatham Community Garden Association reserves the right to amend these rules from time to time, provided that all garden plot holders are given notice of the change.