

2026 Community Garden Agreement

Text below is copied from Southborough Town Portal by MySouthborough.com. Actual form must be completed through the online registration page. Find details [here](#).

- No pesticides are allowed, organic or otherwise. The community gardens abut Beecology, where Dr. Robert Gegear leads a research team on at-risk native bumblebees. Using pesticides puts those bumblebees, as well as other pollinators and birds, at further risk. If gardeners identify an insect infestation, they should hand-pick them and place them in a jar of soapy water.
- No soil or compost can be brought into the community gardens this season due to concerns about invasive jumping worms.
- If gardeners identify any blights or diseased plants, they must dispose of them off-site and not compost them.
- All assigned sites will be inspected at the end of the season. **Any gardener whose plot is left with debris shall not be eligible for a plot next year.**
- Plots can be fenced, at the gardener's expense. Gardeners are responsible for removing all fence materials at the end of the season.
- Gardeners **must** dispose of waste and litter after every visit to their plot. All non-organic waste must be removed from the site by the gardener.
- Unattended watering is not permitted. Please notify the garden coordinator of any leaks in the water line. All faucets must be turned off when not being used and hoses must be returned to their stations.
- Only vegetables, fruits, herbs, and annuals may be grown in the garden plots. **Mint and other quickly spreading plants are strictly prohibited.**
- Gardeners must maintain their plots regularly. Gardeners are responsible for weeding the walkways around their plots. If the Garden Coordinator needs to maintain walkways adjacent to any plot, each adjacent plot will be noted and may be charged an additional fee the following season to get a new plot. If a gardener abandons their plots for any reason, they must notify the Garden Coordinator, and coordinate a time to remove all debris from the plot. If the Garden Coordinator needs to remove their debris, they will not be eligible for a plot next year.
- Composting is only allowed in designated areas; do not toss weeds into the wetlands. Do not throw cardboard, corn stalks or any long, fibrous materials into the composting areas - these must be removed from the site by the gardener.
- The Town of Southborough provides the land and water outlets with hoses. Gardeners are responsible for bringing their own gardening tools. Garden tools may be stored in the Community Garden portion of the shed, however, the Town of Southborough or the Community Garden Coordinator are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Access to the property is allowed from dawn until dusk on the driveway adjacent to the garden, and at the trailhead for Breakneck Hill Conservation Land. Parking in the former Harding Botanicals lot is not permitted.

Please note that only one size plot is available. Southborough residents will receive priority for plots. Residents can request up to two (2) plots, non-residents can request up to one (1) plot. Plots will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. No requests for changes to assigned plots will be allowed.

- I have read and agree to the Community Garden Agreement listed above, and understand that not acting in accordance with the agreement may lead to the loss of my garden plot or denial of a garden plot in future years. *

- I understand that the Community Garden Coordinator, the Conservation Commission, and the Town of Southborough are not responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to hold harmless those parties listed above for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the garden by me or any of my guests.