



barringtoncommunitygarden

A Volunteer-Run Organic Community Garden for Barrington Residents

2022 Registration Form

Returning Lessees

Registration for returning lessees is from **Monday, February 28 through Sunday, March 13, 2022**, by mail or drop-off to Town Hall (see further instructions for application submittal below). If you would like to re-lease that same plot as last year, please indicate here: **Re-lease Plot #_____**. Once your application is submitted, you may start working in the garden, as weather allows. If you do not register prior to March 13th, your plot will be opened for leasing to other applicants.

New 2022 Lessees

Registration for new lessees is **Monday, March 14 through Sunday, March 27, 2022** (by mail/drop-off to Town Hall) on a first come, first served basis. A garden plot will be selected for you among those available and you will be notified of this plot number after your application is processed. New lessees may begin working in the garden as soon as you receive your plot number. **A garden map with plot designations will be posted on the entry bulletin board.**

Application Submittal Instructions:

Please return the following:

- 1) this completed form,
- 2) a signed copy of the separate *Lease and Use Agreement*, and
- 3) a check for \$25 payable to “The Town of Barrington” with “BCG” in the note section. Checks must be imprinted with a Barrington address or accompanied by a copy of the lessee’s valid driver’s license with a Barrington address.

Mail or drop off your application to Barrington Community Garden, attn: Cyndee Fuller, c/o Barrington Town Hall, 283 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806.

Applicant Name and Address: _____

Application and fee received by: _____
(Steering Committee Member signature and payment reference)

Plot Assigned _____ Date: _____



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2022 BARRINGTON COMMUNITY GARDEN LEASE AND USE AGREEMENT

The Barrington Community Garden (BCG) is a volunteer-run organic community garden for Barrington residents. This Lease and Use Agreement identifies terms and conditions for leasing a 5' x 20' plot at the BCG. The annual fee for leasing a plot is \$25, payable by check imprinted with a Barrington address *or* accompanied by a copy of the lessee's valid driver's license with a Barrington address.

To accept the Lease and Use Agreement, please read and initial each item and then sign.

- I agree to adhere to the policies and procedures of the BCG as described in this lease and use agreement and the following documents (all forms are available at www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org):
 - ❖ BCG General Rules _____ (please initial)
 - ❖ BCG Community Work Commitment _____ (please initial)
 - ❖ BCG Plot Closing Instructions _____ (please initial)
 - ❖ BCG Organic Guidelines _____ (please initial)
 - ❖ BCG Composting Guidelines _____ (please initial)
- I agree to cultivate my leased plot no later than **June 1, 2022**, and maintain it in a relatively weed-free condition and within the plot limits throughout the season. _____ (please initial)
- I agree to weed and woodchip pathways north and east of my leased plot, as needed (up to the next plot or five feet) no later than **June 1, 2022**, and I agree to weed and woodchip these pathways throughout the season to control weeds. _____ (please initial)
- I agree to volunteer two (2) hours over the season during scheduled or individual work sessions to help with community garden tasks (see *BCG Community Work Commitment* for more information). _____ (please initial)
- I agree to clean my plot of all plant debris, cages, stakes, trellises, etc. by the garden closing date of **November 30, 2022**. The BCG is not responsible for items overwintered in your leased plot. The perimeter fencing may remain over the winter (also see *BCG Garden Plot Closing Instructions*). _____ (please initial)
- I understand that plots are not transferable without BCG Steering Committee permission. _____ (please initial)
- I agree to abide by the terms of this Lease and Use Agreement. I understand that if I do not, this agreement may be considered breached, and the plot and annual fee may be forfeited. _____ (please initial)
- I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Town of Barrington and/or its employees and volunteers from claims or liability related to any injury, accident, damage, or loss that may occur in association with any community gardening or related activities by myself, family members, or my guests.

Signature of Lessee: _____

Date: _____

Name of Lessee (printed): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

(must be same as on check or driver's license)

Email: _____

(Email is our main mode of communication; please provide a legible email address that is regularly checked).

Assigned Plot:



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Barrington Community Garden General Rules

- 🌸 The BCG is open from dawn until dusk, seven days a week. Please park in the designated parking area in front of the garden, *not* along the driveway.
- 🌸 Children are welcome in the BCG, under adult supervision. Pets are *not allowed* in the garden.
- 🌸 Community tools are available in the shed for use by lessees. Please clean and return tools to the shed after use.
- 🌸 All personal tools and supplies must be stored within the boundaries of the leased plot. The shed is not to be used for storing personal items.
- 🌸 Lessees are welcome to harvest herbs, flowers, and vegetables from the Community Garden corners surrounding the central common area and raspberries from along the western fence. Blueberries along the northern fence are still settling in.
- 🌸 Removing crops from others' plots is not allowed unless permission is granted by the plot's Lessee.
- 🌸 On-site commercial sale of plants, fruits, and/or vegetables from the BCG is not allowed.
- 🌸 Hoses are provided for community use; however, please take care when moving hoses not to disturb other garden plots or pathways.
- 🌸 Water is available from spigots installed throughout the garden. Spigots should be turned on/off by the metal wheel handle ONLY; please *do not* use/reposition the red plastic valve on the riser pipe. Repeated use of the plastic valve will cause it to break.
- 🌸 To protect wildlife, use of plastic netting/fencing or rodent "sticky traps" is not allowed. Metal or bamboo fencing or floating row cover fabric may be used for wildlife exclusion.
- 🌸 No permanent structures are permitted in the leased plot, except for the wooden plot borders and perimeter fencing.
- 🌸 BCG maintains a "trash in, trash out" policy; please keep the BCG tidy.
- 🌸 The Town of Barrington is not liable for any injury to persons or property resulting from community gardening or other on-site activities. Participation is at the Lessee's own risk.
- 🌸 All BCG policies/guidance are available at www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org.



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Barrington Community Garden Community Work Commitment

As part of the Lease and Use Agreement, all lessees agree to participate in two (2) hours of community work over the season to assist in the care and maintenance of common areas and outer pathways of the garden.^[1]

Community work days will be scheduled throughout the gardening season and will be listed on the BCG website (www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org) and posted on the garden bulletin board at the entrance.

If the scheduled times posted do not work for you, work may be performed individually and logged in at the work center in the shed. Further guidance on self-logging of individual time work will be forthcoming.

In lieu of the above 2 hours of community work, lessees may pay a seasonal community maintenance fee of \$50 to cover community work requirements.^[1] This option may be selected by sending a check for the fee, payable to the Town of Barrington and with your BCG Plot# in the memo section, to Barrington Community Garden, c/o Barrington Town Hall, 283 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806, **prior to June 1, 2022.**

VERY IMPORTANT: All lessees are required to keep the pathways on the north and east sides of their plot (5 feet out or to the next plot) relatively weed-free and well-covered with wood chips. This requirement is in addition to your 2 hours of community work or payment in lieu thereof. Path maintenance can be done at any time convenient to your schedule. However, the initial weeding and placement of wood chips on the pathways, as needed to cover bare soil, must be completed by **June 1, 2022.** This keeps the weeds at bay and makes your maintenance of these paths throughout the season much easier.

^[1] Two hours per season or \$50 per plot leased.



Barrington Community Garden Organic Guidelines

The Barrington Community Garden is an organic garden where the use of synthetic fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides is **not allowed**. Proper cultivation techniques, such as mulching, proper watering, plant spacing, and hand-weeding, can address most garden issues. Materials and products that are allowed, if and when needed, are contained on two lists:

- Materials that are approved for use in organic gardens by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's **National Organic Program (NOP)**; and
- Products on the **Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)** Product List for crop production.



Following is a short list of some allowed materials and products for various uses. Consult the sources above for additional allowed materials/products. Feel free to ask a member of the BCG Steering Committee for further assistance.

Fertility and Soil Amendments

- Finished compost (plant, manure, lobster, etc.)
- Compost tea
- Cover crops (e.g., winter rye)
- Animal and plant products, such as:
 - bone, blood, and feather meal
 - kelp/seaweed
 - fish emulsion
- Rock minerals, such as:
 - Agricultural lime and dolomitic limestone
 - Gypsum
 - Epsom salts

Weed Control/Treatment

- Mulch to suppress weed growth, such as:
 - Paper that is not glossy and free from colored ink
 - Straw (NOT hay – regular hay has seeds!) or salt marsh hay
- Herbicidal soaps (non-specific weed killer)
- Corn gluten meal (non-GMO) (suppresses germination, so not where you will be planting seed)



Insect Pests and Diseases (don't treat indiscriminately; know what you are treating)

- Biological and microbial products, such as:
 - Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt)
 - Bacillus subtilis
 - Spinosad (e.g., Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew)
- Organic insecticidal soap
- Diatomaceous earth
- Minerals, such as:
 - Elemental sulfur
 - Copper sulfate
 - Sodium/potassium bicarbonate
 - Kaolin clay
- Oils - narrow range petroleum, vegetable, and fish oils
- Pheromones and pheromone traps
- Plant-derived substances, such as:
 - Neem
 - Pyrethrins (not pyrethroids, which are synthetic)

Construction Material

Any natural or inert material that will not readily degrade is suitable for use in constructing plant cages and trellis structures at the BCG, with preference given to the following (not in order):

- Untreated/unpreserved wood
- Metal (e.g., aluminum, copper, steel), including wire
- Sisal/Jute/Twine
- Bamboo stakes

Materials not suitable for use at the BCG include:

- Preserved/treated wood
- Plastic lumber
- Plastic or synthetic mulch
- Plastic mesh netting, plastic construction fencing

The use of plastic-coated cages or stakes, synthetic row covers, and PVC piping for constructing plant cages or trellis structures is permitted for the duration of the growing season, but must be removed at the end of the season. Perimeter fencing can remain over the winter.



Barrington Community Garden Composting Guidelines

Composting is a natural form of recycling, in which plant matter exposed to air, water, insects, bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms (a.k.a. “bugs”) decomposes into a soil-like material called compost and generates heat. Compost is a great soil textural amendment and provides nutrients and minerals. When creating compost, essential components are:

Carbon and nitrogen (in the right ratio). Carbon and nitrogen are the two fundamental elements in composting. Carbon comes from dried or dead plant material (“browns”) and is used by “bugs” as an energy source. Nitrogen comes from fresh plant material (“greens”) and is used by “bugs” for protein synthesis (needed for growth and reproduction). While plant materials vary in their content of carbon and nitrogen, a general rule of thumb is to combine 3 parts brown material and 1 part green material (by volume).

Air. Decomposing plant material uses up oxygen, so oxygen must be replaced to support further composting. Aeration, or turning the compost over with a pitchfork or shovel, replaces oxygen. A compost pile that is not properly aerated will become anaerobic (oxygen-poor), slimy, and smelly.

Water. “Bugs” use nutrients when they are dissolved in water. Too little water will suppress microbial activity and too much water will replace oxygen, resulting in an anaerobic compost pile. Optimally, compost should have a moisture content of 40 to 60 percent, or like a well-wrung sponge.

Bugs. Insects, bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms already exist on most plant matter or will naturally find their way into the compost pile. Feed them and they will come.

Adequate size. A good minimum size for a compost pile is 3 feet wide by 3 feet deep by 3 feet high. Compost piles smaller than this aren’t able to hold in the heat to facilitate decomposition; too much larger and the pile becomes difficult to aerate.

Rule of Thumb: Compost = 3 Parts Brown + 1 Part Green + Air + Water (“bugs” are free)

“Browns”

Dried leaves

Straw/salt marsh hay/dried grass

Uncolored, non-glossy paper/cardboard

Wood chips/sawdust

“Greens”

Fresh plants and leaves

Fresh (green) grass clippings

Animal manure

Seedless vegetable waste

Things NOT to compost at the BCG

General trash (paper cups, plastic, metal)

Woody plant stalks (such as sunflower stalks)

Diseased plants (!)

Seeds in any form (e.g., on weeds, in vegetables, in hay)

Meat, fish, or dairy

Food scraps from home

Every time you add anything to the compost pile, add water!



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2022 Barrington Community Garden Plot Closing Instructions

As part of the BCG lease agreement, lessees have agreed to clean their leased garden plot of all plant debris, cages, trellises, and other structures by the garden closing date of **November 30, 2022**. Plots that are not properly cleaned by this date will be considered abandoned and the current lessee will be unable to lease for the 2023 season. Specifics are noted below:

- All spent plant material must be removed from the plot by the garden closing date. Cleaned plots may be mulched with straw, compost, or cover crops for winter protection. If you anticipate renewing your current plot lease next year, plants being overwintered for next season (like garlic) may remain.
- All cages, trellises, stakes, and the like must be removed from the garden for the winter. If not removed, these items will be disposed. The perimeter wood border and exterior fencing may remain over the winter. Personal items should not be stored in the shed.
- All appropriate spent plant debris that is not diseased and does not contain seeds can be placed in the compost bins, along with a watering of the compost. Refer to the *Barrington Community Garden Composting Guidelines*.
- All spent plant debris that cannot be composted (i.e., is diseased or contains seeds) are to be disposed of in yard waste bags and brought to the very end of the driveway along Wampanoag Trail for municipal yard waste pick-up.

If you have any questions, please contact the Steering Committee through the website (www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org).