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## A Volunteer-Run Organic Community Garden for Barrington Residents

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### 2024 Registration Form

#### Returning Lessees

Registration for **returning** lessees is from **Monday, March 4, 2024, through Sunday, March 17, 2024**, 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 17<sup>th</sup>, your plot will be opened for leasing to other applicants. Note: **One plot per household only.**

#### New 2024 Lessees

Registration for **new** lessees is **Monday, March 18 through Sunday, April 7, 2024** (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. **One plot per household only.**

#### 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 Lot #" 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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### 2024 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 limit is one plot per household.** 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](http://www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org)):
  - ❖ BCG General Rules
  - ❖ BCG Community Work Commitment
  - ❖ BCG Plot Closing Instructions
  - ❖ BCG Organic Guidelines \_\_\_\_\_ (please initial)
- I agree to cultivate my leased plot no later than **June 1, 2024**, *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, 2024**, *and* throughout the season to control weeds. \_\_\_\_\_ (please initial)
- I agree to volunteer three (**3**) 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 **December 1, 2024**. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(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***

**All garden members are expected to adhere to these rules or risk losing your plot.**

- ✿ 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 or in the pollinator garden.
- ✿ Children are welcome in the BCG, under adult supervision. Pets are *not allowed* in the BCG.
- ✿ Community tools are available in the shed for use by lessees. Please clean and return tools to the shed after use.
- ✿ All garden waste is to be disposed of in yard waste bags at the street edge; no on-site composting is available.
- ✿ 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, but light harvesting is okay.
- ✿ 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](http://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 three (3) hours of community work over the season to assist in the care and maintenance of common areas and outer pathways of the garden.

Community workdays will be scheduled throughout the gardening season and will be listed on the BCG website ([www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org](http://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. Directions are in the shed.

*In lieu of the above 3 hours of community work*, lessees may pay a seasonal community maintenance fee of \$50 to cover community work requirements.<sup>[1]</sup> 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, 2024.**

***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 3 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, 2024.** This keeps the weeds at bay and makes your maintenance of these paths throughout the season much easier.



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### 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, seaweed, or fish emulsion
- Rock minerals, such as agricultural lime, dolomitic limestone, gypsum, epsom salts

#### Weed Control/Treatment

- Mulch to suppress weed growth, such as plain non-glossy, non-colored paper, straw (NOT hay – regular hay has seeds!), or salt marsh hay
- Herbicidal soaps (non-specific weed killer)
- Corn gluten meal (must be non-GMO) (suppresses germination, so not where you will be planting seed)



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

- Biological and microbial products, such as, *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) or Spinosad;
- Organic insecticidal soap;
- Diatomaceous earth;
- Minerals, such as, elemental sulfur, copper sulfate, sodium/potassium bicarbonate;
- Oils - narrow range petroleum, vegetable, and fish oils;
- Pheromones and pheromone traps;
- Plant-derived substances, such as neem or pyrethrins (but 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 such as:

- 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.



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## **2024 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 **December 1, 2024**. Plots that are not properly cleaned by this date will be considered abandoned and the current lessee will be unable to lease for the 2025 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 spent plant debris is 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. No on-site composting is available.

If you have any questions, please contact the Steering Committee through the website ([www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org](http://www.barringtoncommunitygarden.org)).