

## **Beach Plum Farm Community Gardens Rules and Regulations 2023**

1. **GARDEN DEPOSIT:** In addition to the annual plot fee, a \$75 **refundable** deposit per plot is required to ensure that gardens are cared for appropriately. At the end of the season, if your plot requires no maintenance from the BPF Garden Manager, your deposit will be returned to you, or you may choose to roll your deposit over for the following year.
2. **PLOT BOUNDARIES:** You are required to maintain your plot up to the marked boundaries indicated by wooden stakes. Keep all soil and vegetation within your plot. No expansion of the plot footprint or movement of stakes is permitted. This includes weed piles, tool storage, and hoses. Please keep plants from creeping outside your boundary. Please keep tall plants or weeds along your boundary from leaning over or going to seed to avoid spreading into neighboring plots. Plants in the grass paths may be cut back by the BPF Garden Manager without notice.
3. **RESTRICTED AND PERENNIAL PLANTS:** Due to the aggressive and spreading nature of certain plants we restrict them **ONLY** to raised beds or pots. These plants include comfrey, horseradish, mint, and raspberries. Other perennial crops, perennial flowers, shrubs, or plants that spread by runners, must be contained within your garden plot and out of shared walkways. Restricted and perennial plants, shrubs and vines must be removed when you leave your plot, or your deposit will not be refunded. Climbing plants that require structure can only be attached to removable structures and the structure and plants must be removed when you leave your plot, or your deposit will not be refunded.
4. **MARIJUANA:** You are not allowed to grow marijuana at Beach Plum Farm.
5. **ORGANIC PRACTICES:** In 2015 legislative changes in Ogunquit made organic gardening practices compulsory. Non-organic fertilizers and pesticides must not to be used (ie. Round-up, Seven, & non-organic Miracle-Grow). Be creative or ask a knowledgeable neighbor for advice. Failure to comply may cause your plot to be forfeited.
6. **NO FABRICS or PLASTIC:** The use of weed-suppressing fabrics and plastic sheeting (including tar paper) is not allowed. Regardless of whether they are labeled “biodegradable” or “compostable” they are problematic. We highly recommend cardboard or newspaper in lieu of these materials and woodchips.
7. **WATER:** Water is available April through October. No sprinklers are to be used, hand watering only. Gardeners must keep hoses in plots to enable mowing of grass paths and public areas.
8. **VEHICLES and PARKING:** Due to the quantity of gardeners and the Conservation Easement at BPF vehicles may only be taken into the garden area to deliver and pick up heavy loads. **Do not leave vehicles in garden area after goods are delivered.** After delivery, return your vehicle to the parking lot. Carts and wheelbarrows are available at the tractor barn for use by all gardeners. Gardeners with handicap plates are exempt from this rule but must park in designated locations.  
  
If the parking area by the office is full, there is a designated over-flow parking area, which can be accessed and exited from either BPF or just north of BPF. See attached directions and map.
9. **DELIVERIES:** You must be on site for deliveries you have scheduled. Deliveries of soil, unless dumped directly into your plot, must be moved into your plot within 24 hours. If the pile cannot be moved within 24 hours, permission from Garden Manager must be requested and the pile covered.

10. **COMPOST & BRUSH & DEBRIS:** The compost pile by the barn is for biodegradable garden debris only. The brush pile in the field is for untreated, unpainted wood or woody material only. Please DO NOT dispose of plastics, metal, or other non-biodegradable objects in the compost or brush pile. Please dispose of all other debris or trash off site.
11. **RAISED BEDS:** Raised beds are only allowed in designated areas. No new or additional raised beds may be installed without permission of BPF Garden Manager. Significant changes or redesigning of existing raised beds must be reviewed by BPF Garden Manager before work is done.
12. **TILLED PLOTS:** Applicable plots are tilled annually, typically the last week in April. **Plots must be cleaned up by the end of the previous year.** We recommend you clean up your plot early enough to plant a fall cover crop to avoid loss of soil. Remove all plants (including stems and stalks) and dispose of them in designated locations. Remove all structures (trellises, hoop houses, etc.), plant tags, plastic materials, pots, stakes, ties, hoses, and tools. Such items impede tilling and therefore are subject to disposal by the BPF Garden Manager. If tilled plots are not cleaned sufficiently for tilling by the end of the year, garden deposits will be forfeited.
13. **ONSITE STORAGE:** There is no onsite storage for garden or personal items outside your plot without permission from the BPF Garden Manager. Any items stored at BPF must be labeled with your name.
14. **ABANDONED & UNUSED PLOTS:** Email [bpfcaretakers@gwrlt.org](mailto:bpfcaretakers@gwrlt.org) prior to May 15 if your plot will not be used. After June 1, unused plots and fees are forfeited.
15. **GENERAL PUBLIC & PETS:** BPF is open to the general public. We advise visitors that these are Community Gardens and to remain on the grass paths only. Dogs are not allowed on BPF land.
16. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Neither BPF Garden Manager nor GWRLT are responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property. This includes tools, cars, hoses, or garden ornaments. Keep tools & hoses within your plot. Do not bury hoses beneath grass paths or other public spaces.
17. **REST ROOMS:** A portable toilet is made available to our gardeners from May through September. Please utilize this when nature calls.
18. **EXTRA PLOTS:** If additional plots are available after the waiting list is exhausted, they may be made available for an additional garden fee to those with one plot in good standing. The waiting list is updated on an annual basis.
19. **SUBJECT TO CHANGE:** All Rules and Regulations are subject to change. We will do our best to inform you of any changes as quickly as possible. Non-cooperation or disrespectful conduct with regard to these Rules and Regulations may result in the loss of your plot.
20. **BPF CARETAKERS and GARDEN MANAGER:** Although the BPF Caretakers and Garden Manager live on the property, they may not be available for immediate response to your questions or problems. Please know that they will get back to you as soon as possible. **Please do not knock on the door of the private residence unless there is an emergency.**

**Questions? Uncertain about something? Please ask; don't assume. We are happy to answer any questions or clarify any information. Contact the BPF Garden Manager or GWRLT at:**

**Beach Plum Farm Garden Manager, Rory Day:** [bpfcaretakers@gwrlt.org](mailto:bpfcaretakers@gwrlt.org)

**GWRLT Stewardship Director, Jill Crosbie:** [jcrosbie@gwrlt.org](mailto:jcrosbie@gwrlt.org)

**GWRLT Office Administrator, Jane Adams:** [jane.adams@gwrlt.org](mailto:jane.adams@gwrlt.org)