

Dear Community Gardener,

Welcome to the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Avery Street Community Gardens. Located at 425 Avery Street, Avery community gardens boasts 61 plots for cultivation. Reservation of your plot includes water for irrigation, use of provided compost, rototilling, staking out plots, and a dumpster for trash (end of season). Additionally, we have slightly extended our gardening season. <u>The new gardening dates are April 20th – November 1, 2022</u>.

To help defray the cost of providing these services there is a nominal user fee of \$35 per plot for the entire gardening year. Fees are nonrefundable. To reserve your plot, please visit our website **recreation.southwindsor.org** or visit us in person located at our Recreation office, 350 Foster Street. Our hours are: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8:00am-4:30pm – Weds 8:00am-7:00pm & Fri 8:00am-1:00pm

Plots are limited to 1 per household with a maximum of 2 based on availability. Plots are nontransferable. All unwanted or unused plots will be surrendered back to the Department of Parks & Recreation. Available plots are distributed on a first come first serve basis to our waitlist. Current Gardeners wanting an additional plot will only be offered a secondary plot after the waitlist is exhausted.

Please Note:

If payment is not received by <u>April 1st</u> you may forfeit your right to the plot. If your plot remains unattended by <u>June 1st</u>, that plot is subject to reassignment. Our Community Garden Guidelines are attached and must be read thoroughly.

In exciting news, South Windsor Parks and Recreation will be hosting an Earth Day Celebration on April 20th at our Rye Street Park. Visit **recreation.southwindsor.org** for more information.

As always we look forward to providing more opportunities for healthy and nutritional lifestyles. If you have any questions comments or concerns they can be directed to our email – <u>rec@southwindsor-ct.gov.</u>

Here's to a prosperous growing season!

-South Windsor Parks & Recreation



Community Garden Guidelines

Individual garden plots are to be used for growing vegetables and flowers for family use and not for commercial sales.

Harvesting another plot is strictly prohibited and only allowed with explicit permission from the plot owner and with a notification sent to the parks and recreation email.

Each gardener is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot. Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. Please keep all plants within the limits of your plot and do not place garden debris in adjacent gardens. Gardeners should visit and maintain their plots at least once a week.

Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash free.

No littering or dumping. Gardens are a carry in and carry out facility – trash free.

Water wells are available to gardeners. Please respect other users of water by using the "Y" connectors provided by the Town. Please detach your hose after each use and clear it from the walk ways and/or other gardener's plots. This is very important as it can cause a tripping hazard. Please use water according to water-wise guidelines and do not use more than the recommended amount of water. Report any water problems such as leaks or broken connectors to the Town Parks & Recreation Department via email: rec@southwindsor-ct.gov

Due to the health and safety of all participants and visitors the following is prohibited at the garden:

- Smoking or Alcohol consumption
- Herbicides/Pesticides Organic Treatments only
- Glass containers
- Animals Dog. Cats, etc
- Unsupervised Children Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied by an adult and must be supervised at all times.

All gardens are subject to occasional inspections. If the garden is not in compliance with the guidelines, an email notice will be sent. Two weeks later another inspection will be performed. If the garden is still not in compliance, the plot will be surrendered and all fees will be forfeited.

At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for clearing their plot of all plant material and leaving the plot as they found it in the spring. Any equipment left will be removed and any produce will be plowed under. Any plot holder who does not clean up and remove all stakes, string, rope, plastic or any other non-plant material risks forfeiting future gardening privileges.

Any bullying or inappropriate conduct (words, name calling, touching, etc) will not be tolerated. Please keep the Community Garden a happy, secure, and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.

> Any violation of these rules will forfeit the rights to your garden plot and potentially other Parks and Recreation Programming.

Happy Gardening!



