

Dear Community Gardener,

We have reached the end of season for our 5th year of Town-sponsored and Town-owned Community Gardens on Deming Street. I hope your garden has been bountiful. As the end of the season approaches us we ask for the clean-up of your plot by **November 1, 2024**. Please see the garden rule below.

*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. The Town asks that the last day for activity at the gardens be **November 1, 2024**. 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.*

In an effort to help with end of season clean up, our department will be providing a dumpster approximately 2 weeks prior to November 1, 2024. The dumpster is for the use of the community gardener's inorganic waste only. Organic and rock material can be placed in the designated locations, away from the dumpster. **Do not leave rocks or materials in walkways or along tree lines.**

In other news, it was recently brought to our attention that produce was removed from the community garden plots. With this information, the department will be placing signs in highly visible areas notifying any visitors you must be a registered participant in order to enter the gardens and we will also be increasing patrols of the gardens. We ask if you have any concerns regarding individuals at the gardens, to please call our office at 860-648-6355.

We hope you have enjoyed your growing season and look forward to seeing you next year!

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 – rec@southwindsor-ct.gov.

Thanks for another great year of cultivation!

-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.

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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!

