



2021 Plot Rental Application for Existing and Prospective Gardeners

IMPORTANT. PLEASE READ IN FULL: Over the last few seasons, our community garden has grown. We are working to grow many of our procedures as well, with the goal of keeping HFCG a joyful, equitable place at which to grow vegetables and flowers. Beginning our new fiscal year, November 1, 2020, the procedures that are affected are:

Payments

- No more cash when paying for plot renewals, fertilizer, rototilling, and so forth, ONLY CHECK, either a personal check, or an online payment from your bank
- THE EXCEPTION IS THE PLANT SALES when we will accept cash

Returning gardeners

- Returning gardeners must reserve their plot(s) by December 1st, by emailing us at helfandfarmcommunitygardens@yahoo.com. If you are not returning, please let us know by December 1st
- Fees must be paid in full no later than April 1st.
 - If a gardener would like to pay in installments they may do so in four increments, which must be followed.
 - 25% in December; 25% in January; 25% in February; 25% in March
 - If a plot(s) is not paid in full by April 1st, it will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis to new gardeners
 - **Please also read and sign the Rules and Terms, as well as fill out your Order Form, and mail them along with payment.**

New Gardeners

- New gardeners should inquire about plot availability at: helfandfarmcommunitygardens@yahoo.com
- If the requested number of plots are available (there is a limit of six), this will be confirmed by a Helfand volunteer. The plots will then be reserved for 2 weeks, during which time they must be paid for. If plots are not paid in full within those two weeks, they will be made available to other gardeners.
- **Please also read and sign the Rules and Terms, as well as fill out your Order Form, and mail them along with payment.**

Rules in consideration for fellow gardeners and the gardens*

- No smoking anywhere on the Helfand property
- Dogs must be tied up, not running freely
- Woody perennials (including shrubs and trees) are not allowed
- It is gardener's responsibility to keep their gardens neat and orderly, not strewn with broken stakes, broken fences, dead plants, etc.
- COVID 19—Until further notice, please 1) maintain social distancing, 2) use the tool shed one person at a time, 3) wear a mask when in the greenhouse

***Please understand that if these rules are broken, the Board of Directors retains the right to cancel a gardener's rental agreement at any time.**

Please mail completed Rules, Terms and Order Form along with payment to:

Helfand Farm Community Garden
P.O. Box 80644
Dartmouth, MA 02748

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping to make HFCG as well-run and joyful as possible.



Rules and Terms 2021

RULES

1. The hours are from sunrise to sunset.
2. During the season, the entrance will be chained, but not locked. The last person to leave the Gardens at any time of day must replace the chain.
3. The short, fat stakes at the corners of the plot quadrants are outside of the plots, so all gardening activity, including fencing, must be inside those stakes. Aisles may not be obstructed.
4. Unwanted rocks or plant material must be taken to the rock pile or compost area, and can not be left in the aisles or elsewhere.
5. Vehicles may be driven up to the garden plots for the purpose of unloading difficult materials, but must be promptly returned to the parking area. Parking outside of the parking lot is allowed for gardeners, only with permission of the Board.
6. Water conservation is a priority. Watering must be done by hand, or soaker hose, while the gardener is present. No sprinklers are allowed except when used by management on the Soup Kitchen Garden and other Helfand-managed spaces.
7. Non-organic fertilizers, pesticides and fungicides are not allowed.
8. Each renter has exclusive rights to their own plots. No one can enter other people's plots without explicit permission.
9. All trash must be removed from the Gardens each day. There will be no provision for trash at the site.
10. Gardeners whose plots are poorly maintained or unsightly may be denied renewal for the following season. Plots must be neat and prepared for winter by October 31. If a plot must be abandoned, please notify a director.
11. Well behaved dogs are allowed only if they are on a short leash and under control at all times. Owners must promptly clean up after them.
12. Renters are responsible for making their guests aware of, and compliant with the Helfand Farm Community Gardens' Rules and Terms 2021 rules, and for their guest's behavior.
13. Community gardeners, their guests and their dogs are prohibited from entering the adjoining agricultural fields, and other private properties.
14. There is no smoking at the Gardens.
15. Garden activities are not allowed to affect neighboring plots with shade, water or creeping or spreading plants, and plants may not spread into the aisles. Tall or spreading crops should be planned accordingly.
16. No invasive/aggressive plants are allowed, including raspberry, blackberry, lemon balm, wineberry, mint, horseradish and Jerusalem artichoke.
17. Owners take the sole risk for tools, supplies or any personal property left in their plots, or anywhere at the Gardens.
18. Anyone wishing to leave materials on the Gardens property, other than those which will be used immediately in their individual compost area or on their Gardens plot, must make a clear request to the Board of Directors, then await a response. The same procedure is required for anyone wishing to remove anything other than produce from the Gardens, or to store anything in the shed.
19. No one can represent the Gardens in print, promotions, statements, Grant applications or in other ways, without the explicit permission of the Board.
20. The Rules for the Gardens are subject to interpretation and enforcement by the Board at any time, and may be modified as needed. Gardeners who break the rules, or who engage in inappropriate or destructive behavior, may be given a verbal or written warning, or denied a future plot renewal, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, or they may be expelled by a membership vote.
21. All crops must be lawful and renters shall at all times conform to and comply with, all Federal, State and Town of Dartmouth laws, rules and regulations. The cultivation of marijuana is prohibited, regardless of legal status.
22. No power equipment may be used at the Gardens without explicit prior permission from the Board, for safety and liability reasons.
23. Woody perennials (including shrubs & trees) are not allowed, except by approval of the Board of Directors.



TERMS

The gardener pays \$55 per 10' x 20' full plot, or \$30 per 10'x10' half plot, per season. Multiples are available up to a maximum of six. Each full plot has 5' aisles on two sides.

The rental season begins Nov. 1 [or later] and ends the following Oct. 31. There is no provision for partial season reductions. Refunds for canceled leases may be given up to April 1, 2021.

Returning gardeners must reserve their plots by December 1, 2020. Fees must be paid in full by April 1, 2021.

The entrance chain will be locked in the off season, but gardeners may visit.

A grassed parking area is provided, and shared grass areas are mowed periodically.

A porta-john, cleaned weekly, is available early April through early October.

Town water [drinkable] is available for irrigation; one spigot for every four plots, early May through early Oct.

There is a picnic table, shed, bulletin board, compost area and designated rock pile.

One wagon, a garden cart, a wheel barrow and some tools are available to share.

There are a variety of services and supplies (listed on subsequent pages) available for purchase by the gardeners.

Gardeners will be assisted with answers to questions, provided with information and advice and supplied with sources for products, whenever possible.

The gardener and his or her guests enters the property at his or her sole risk and hazard.

I understand that neither The Gardens, Inc, nor the owner of the land are responsible for my actions. I therefore, agree to hold harmless Helfand Farm Community Gardens, Inc., the past, present and future officers and directors, and owner of the land, for any liability, injury, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of The Garden by me or any of my guests.

I have read, understand, agree and will comply with the 2021 Rules and Terms (2 pages), and any subsequent modifications declared by the directors of the Helfand Farm Community Gardens, as a condition of my plot rental.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Street/ mailing address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____



Name: _____

Plot #: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Returning gardener: New to Helfand Farm

ORDER FORM

Plot and Compost Bin Rental Fees

Full Plot (10x20) \$55 per: # of plots: _____ Half Plot (10x10) \$30 per: _____ Total Plot Fee: _____

Compost Bin \$5 per: Bin number _____ Total Bin Fee: _____

Services

Rototilling at \$15 per plot: # of plots: _____ Plot # (s) _____ Total Rototilling Fee: _____

Organic Fertilizers and Supplies:

Below are two fertilizer packages from which to choose -- the foundation of each is our own hand-mixed fertilizer blend. Recommended application rates are printed on the metal fertilizer bin (across from the greenhouse). Gardeners who purchased both rototilling and fertilizer will have fertilizer rototilled into the soil for them (not including added "PLUS" items, which will be available for gardeners in the tool shed). We keep prices on fertilizer and supplies as low as possible, to encourage successful gardening and good stewardship of the soil.

Fertilizer Blend -- \$10 per plot: This granulated blend of organic fertilizers and amendments is based on soil tests and eight years of experience gardening at Helfand Farm. It includes chicken manure, seaweed, alfalfa meal, compost concentrate, inoculants, humates and minerals. Easy application, great results.

of Plots: _____ Total Fertilizer Package fee: _____

Fertilizer Blend PLUS - \$15 per plot: Includes our Fertilizer Blend (see above) PLUS some of our favorite liquid fertilizers, including Organic Gem (a fish fertilizer made in New Bedford) as well as a dry mycorrhizal inoculant to use when planting. For gardeners who want to go the extra mile.

of Plots: _____ Total PLUS Fertilizer Package fee: _____

Compost - \$12 per wheelbarrow: For best results, use with our Fertilizer Blend, or your own organic fertilizer. Gardeners are responsible for transporting compost to their plots, from a shred pile. We purchase the best quality compost that is available locally.

of WB: _____ Total Compost fee: _____

Woven Plastic Ground Cover: Blocks weeds, but permeable to water and air. More durable than standard ground cover and tarps. We use this for our center walkway in the greenhouse and to cover entire plots off-season. Can only be used for garden beds in-season if special steps are taken (edges of holes melted, otherwise the woven plastic will fray). Price includes metal staples. 3' Wide Roll (walkway) \$3/10 feet; 10.5' Wide Roll (whole or half plot cover)

Half Plot: \$7.50 Full Plot: \$15 Total ground cover _____

Floating Row Covers: Used to cover sensitive plants, particularly in cold weather. Fabric costs \$3/10 feet

of feet _____ Total Cover cost: _____

Wire Hoops, for use with Floating Row Cover: \$1.50/each # of hoops _____ Total hoop cost: _____

Donation: I would like to make a donation to the good work of Helfand Farm Total Donation: _____

Please make check or money order payable to: Helfand Farm Community Gardens

Mail to: _____ Grand Total: _____

Helfand Farm Community Garden
P.O. Box 80644
Dartmouth, MA 02748

THANK YOU

We look forward to a great 2021 planting season