



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY GARDENS

2019 Registration Form for Gardeners

Visit our website for more information or to contact us: fbcreading.org

Returning gardeners are given priority to reclaim their plot from last year. The deadline for returning gardeners to register is April 15. Plots of returning gardeners that have not been claimed by April 15 will be released to new gardeners.

- I am a returning gardener
- I would like to change the size of my plot from last year (if available)
- I am a new gardener (I understand I may be added to a waitlist)

1. Contact information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

2. Indicate your garden size preference. NOTE: One garden per household please.

10' by 5' 5' by 5'

3. Sign the **Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules** and include with this form.

4. Mail to: First Baptist Church of Reading
45 Woburn Street
Reading MA 01867

Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules

All gardeners are required to complete a registration form and sign the **Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules**.

1. To make gardening pleasant for all: Gardeners will keep a clean and well-maintained garden area. Gardeners are responsible for the removal of their own trash and waste. All gardeners are responsible for keeping weeds down and maintaining the paths immediately surrounding their plot. Pathways must be kept clear and accessible.

2. To encourage friendship and community: Gardeners will respect their fellow members and be helpful and courteous at all times.

3. To be a good gardening neighbor: Gardeners will minimize the shading of neighboring plots and will not allow plants to grow into walkways or other plots. Any encroaching or shading plants may be trimmed without warning.

4. To keep theft in check: Gardeners will not tend to, or harvest in another gardener's plot (even those looking abandoned) unless given permission. Gardeners caught stealing produce will be expelled. Please report theft, vandalism and unusual activities to a Garden Coordinator or the Reading Police.

5. To protect our environment and our food: Gardeners will follow organic gardening practices. Gardeners will not use chemical fertilizers, pesticides, or weed repellents.

6. To make sure it all runs smoothly: Gardeners will plant and maintain their garden during daylight hours only. If a garden has not been attended to by **June 15**, or it appears to be abandoned at any time during the growing season, the gardener will be contacted and given one week to tend his/her garden. If the gardener does not, his or her garden will be reassigned or tilled in. If something comes up and you are unable to tend to your plot, please contact a Garden Coordinator as soon as possible.

7. To keep a good thing going:

- Gardeners must clear out all remaining plant material in their plot by **November 15**.
- Do not walk through landscaped hill, use the stairs and enter garden on Sanborn Street side.
- Water must be turned off after each use.
- All work shall be done with hand tools only.
- Storage of personal tools at the gardens is not allowed.
- No illegal plants (or marijuana) are permitted to be planted or brought to the community gardens.
- Alcoholic beverages, illegal substances and smoking are forbidden in the garden or on church grounds.
- A parent or guardian must accompany children under 16 years of age at all times in the garden.
- Pets are not allowed in the garden.
- No plants shall be used that are listed as invasive or potentially invasive on the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group list of invasive plants www.massnrc.org/mipag. The planting of trees, shrubs, bushes, and any non-native species is prohibited.

If a gardener is found to be in violation of any of the Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules, the First Baptist Church reserves the right to ask the gardener to leave and the plot will be reassigned.

By signing the **Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules**, I have agreed that I have read and understand the **Community Gardener Guidelines and Rules** and plan to abide by all of the garden rules. I understand that First Baptist Church of Reading is not responsible for my actions and I agree to hold them harmless for any liability, damage, loss, or claim that occurs in connection with use of the garden by me or my guests.

If you have any questions, please contact First Baptist Church of Reading Garden Coordinators, Bill Downie or Michelle Wager at: 781-944-3876 or office@fbcreading.org

Signed: _____ Date: _____