

FBGA 2014 Rules and Regulations

Please read carefully. **Failure to abide by these rules will forfeit your rights as a community gardener at FBGA and your plot will be taken away and reassigned.**

During the growing season (April 1 through October 31) the garden is open from sunrise to sunset.

The following rules and regulations apply to all members and their guests.

In addition, each member is responsible for checking the bulletin boards for any changes and updates regarding policy, rules, regulations and events sponsored by FBGA, including educational workshops. Please keep this document for your records.

1 Identification – **Each plot must have a sign on their gate or front fence facing the aisle with the plot owner's last name, and plot number of the user at all times.**

This sign must be clearly visible and erected at the onset of the growing season. All vehicles in the garden parking areas must display the parking permit on the rear view mirror at all times. Vehicles that do not have a parking permit are subject to ticketing by park police.

2-Inspections - the gardens are inspected monthly from May to September. **Any gardener who receives 3 inspection violations in a 2 year period will lose their plot.**

3-Community Service - Each Gardening Family (garden members at the same address) is required to perform Community Service. The number of hours will be determined annually by the Board of Directors. Notice of the required number of hours will be sent with garden applications and stated on Opening Day/ Permit Distribution.

4-Fencing The following fencing materials and products are absolutely prohibited in the garden area: chain link, orange or bright blue plastic, lattice or bed frame fencing, or concrete construction of any kind in or around a plot. . **Do not fence in more than 4 plots together.**

5-Shade Area – Structures in garden plots must be 3 ft. from perimeter of plot to avoid shading neighboring plots. Structures may not be taller than 6 feet. NO Tarps may be used on the top or sides of structures. If you need shade use roll up shade materials. Shading materials must be rolled up when you are not using them.

6-Maintenance of Plot- **If a member is temporarily or permanently unable to maintain his/her plot as required, the member will notify FBGA in writing before the plot becomes unsightly or overgrown with weeds. If a plot is determined to be abandoned by FBGA there is no record of this written notification, the plot it will be reassigned.** If the gardener is deceased, the plot may be transferred to spouse, long term partner or immediate family member only.

7-Prohibited Activities - The following activities are absolutely prohibited in the garden area: interfering with the day to day running of FBGA, taking anything from community growing areas and/or your neighbors' plots, physical, written or verbal assaults, racial, ethnic, religious, gender abuse, or disorderly conduct unrestrained pets, ball playing, skating, loud music, littering, feeding of wild animals, and the use of chemical pesticides or fungicides such as Sevin, Captan, Diazinon and Malathion are also prohibited. FBGA encourages the use of organic fertilizers. Fertilizers exceeding NPK totaling over 15 are considered non-organic.

8- No unauthorized tree cutting, removal or pruning or planting allowed. Members must consult with an official from the Administration and/or Landscape Chairperson before altering any tree, shrub or other plants within or around the landscape.

9- Each member must respect and adhere to the assigned layout dimensions and will not exceed the maximum dimensions allocated of approximate size 10' X 20'

single, 10' X 40' (X), or 20' X 20' (U). All garden fencing will not exceed five (5) feet in height.

All members must properly maintain their assigned plot and the adjacent walkway by controlling and removing all weeds either by manual pulling, tilling, or pitchforking the soil.

10- Garbage Disposal: The trash receptacles around the gardens are for trash and lightweight items only, such as diseased plants, food and beverage containers. Place the following materials next to containers: wood, metal, These will not be emptied, as they are too heavy for sanitation to remove.

After barbequing, you must remove the charcoal and place the ashes in the containers marked 'charcoal.' .

11- Community Compost Area: Only vegetation and organic matter (biodegradables/weeds) are to be placed in the designated compost area. NO PLASTIC BAGS OR TRASH OF ANY KIND are ALLOWED in the compost area.

12-Water Policy: In the event of a drought emergency, all gardeners must comply with NYC conservation rules imposed and in effect. During this time no automatic sprinkler systems or watering by hose will be allowed. Members are prohibited from altering or tapping into the main water system. No unauthorized plumbing work is allowed within the garden area. Anyone who wants to do plumbing work in their garden must get approval from FBGA Chair of Operations and Maintenance.

All water containers including but not limited to tubs, barrels, ponds, and bird baths must be treated in order to prevent mosquito breeding by using either Mosquito Dunk or fish that eat mosquito larvae.

13-Forty Eight (48) inch aisle requirement: All aisles and walkways must provide a minimum width of forty-eight inches for safe public access. No obstructions of any kind such as plants, flower beds, boxes, mats, rugs, or carpets are permitted in the walkways or aisles.

14-For Liability Purposes: Members are not permitted to work in or around the garden area during the off-season period (November 1 through March 31) unless you are registered with FBGA/NPS as a Volunteer of the Park.

15-Plots must be left clean, free of debris and dead plants. All unsightly items must be stored away and secured for the winter. It is highly recommended that a cover crop such as clover, winter rye, buckwheat, or hairy vetch be planted at the end of the growing season to prevent soil erosion.