

Inspection Requirements

The following rules & regulations apply to all members and guests. Failure to abide by FBGA's policies may result in forfeiting your privileges as a community gardener.

Plots are inspected monthly May 1 — September 30. Violations must be corrected within 10 days of date of the notification letter. Violations not corrected by the next inspection will count as another citation. Three inspection violations in a 2-year period is cause to reassign your plot.

1. Plots must display a clearly labeled sign on the gate or front fence facing the aisle by April 30 containing member's last name & plot number.
2. Gardens and aisles must be level and free of weeds—maintain by weeding or mulching. A 48-inch aisle width for safe public & wheelchair access and maintaining front and back aisles (applies to 10'X40' plot only) is mandatory.
3. Invasive plants (not limited to): bamboo, fennel, Fountain grass, Houttuynia, horseradish, mints, morning glory, blackberry, raspberry, trees and shrubs are to be grown in pots only not to exceed 6 feet in height. The roots can interfere with common areas or your neighbor's space.
4. Only wood, green, silver, black metal or plastic fencing 5 feet high is allowed. Chain link, lattice, or other shade causing fences and permanent structures are prohibited. No more than 4 single plots are to be fenced in. Invasive vines or other plantings are not permitted outside or along the fence line.
5. Limit of 50 sq. ft. of any size plot can be for structures. The remaining area must be used for plantings. Existing structures allowed to remain.
6. No altering or tampering with any pipes or main watering system. No standing water in any container, or bird bath without mosquito dunk or larvae eating fish to prevent mosquitoes.

Community Policy

Members are responsible to check bulletin boards, newsletter or website for changes and/or updates. Educational workshops are for members and the public. Children's garden workshops are for member's children unless otherwise specified.

All members must have current permits. Pick up permit tags and ID cards at the Spring Meeting or contact the Administration within 48 hours to make other arrangements. Failure to have permits after April 30 may result in forfeiture of the plot.

Plots are non-transferable except in situations of a member's death; the plot may then be transferred to a spouse, domestic partner or immediate family member only, provided administration is notified in writing. If a plot is or appears abandoned without written notification, the plot will be reassigned. Plots must be left free of debris and plants when switching to another. Moving is permitted from March 15-30. Secure plots for winter break. After 2 years, members can apply for double plots if they have no violations in a 2-yr. period. Plots are assigned when available.

Members must adhere to the layout dimensions of plots as allocated. Approximate sizes are: 10'X20' single, 10'X40' (X plot), and/or 20'X20' (U plot).

Obstructions of any kind in aisles are not permitted, this includes: mats, rugs and carpets. Structures must not exceed 6 feet in height or interfere with neighboring plots. Structures must be 3 ft. from perimeter of neighboring gardens to avoid shading other plots. Tarps on sides or top of structures is not permitted. However, roll-up shade cloths and umbrellas are allowed.

Unauthorized pruning, planting, or removal of plants from common areas is not permitted.

Dogs must be leashed & controlled. Clean up after your pet. Pets who interfere with common areas or the community are not welcome.

Community Areas & Community Service

Households are members at the same address. No more than 4 single or 2 double plots is considered a household. Each household is required to present photo ID to obtain credit or exemption for community service and perform 8 hours of service as specified in FBGA's by-laws or determined by the Board of Directors. Service must be completed by September 30. There is no carry over of service. Members are encouraged to join a committee to participate in the community environment. Be social. Work together!

All green NPS trash cans are for small trash only. Metal, wood and large items must be brought to the dumpster located in the rear of the gardens for removal by Dept. of Sanitation. Vegetation and organic matter (weeds) are to be placed in the Community Compost area; no plastic bags or trash allowed therein.

Members are not permitted in work areas (located behind the picnic and habitat) without permission from the O&M Director. Any delivery of materials (compost, manure, or woodchips) are for members only and will be placed in the parking areas for you to use by Operations and Maintenance crews.

Picnic/BBQ Areas

FBGA's picnic area, our 3 gazebos (including The Champions of Courage Garden), are community spaces shared by all members. Members must accompany their guests and remain with them during picnics and BBQ's. Large groups require prior permission. Only charcoal fires are permitted. Clean grills after each use and place spent coal in the red cans marked CHARCOAL ONLY. Dispose of your bagged trash in the green containers.

Whatever you bring in, take with you when you leave. BBQ responsibly. Fires destroy property and wildlife habitats.

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Stealing from community areas or garden neighbors' plots
- Disorderly conduct including: fighting, verbal abuse
- Racial, sexual orientation, ethnic, or religious slurs
- Ball playing, skating, loud music
- Littering
- Interfering with the daily operations and activities of FBGA committees
- The use of any chemical pesticides or fungicides such as but not limited to: Sevin, Captan, Diazinon, Roundup or Malathion.

FBGA encourages the use of organic fertilizers. Fertilizers exceeding an NPK total of 15 or higher are non-organic. Fertilizers come in numbers. The numbers are the content of the 3 main ingredients—NPK which stands for: Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium respectively.

- *Nitrogen* is important from growing new leaves to keeping pests at bay. It is part of the chlorophyll molecule, which gives plants their green color and is involved in creating food for the plant through photosynthesis.
- *Phosphorus* helps a plant convert other nutrients into usable atoms/molecules with which to grow. It is vitally important for root growth.
- *Potassium* is responsible for the growth and reproduction of plants. Potassium is considered second only to nitrogen, when it comes to nutrients needed by plants.

Some organic brands are Espoma, Dr. Earth and FoxFarm. Bat or bird guano, composted chicken, sheep, or horse manure, blood meal, chicken feather or fish meal are all good sources of nitrogen. In addition, Bonemeal is a good source of phosphorus, and kelp or greensand are organic sources of potassium.

National Park Service Requirements

Display permit hangtags in vehicles front window, or you may be subject to ticketing by NPS police.

In case of drought, members will respect any restrictions posted or stated by NPS.

If Floyd Bennett Field is closed to visitors, FBGA will also be closed.



The Floyd Bennett Gardens Association
Floyd Bennett Field
One Ryan Visitor Center
Brooklyn, New York 11234

Contact Us

The Floyd Bennett Gardens Association Inc.
P.O. Box 340986 Ryder Retail Station, Brooklyn, New York 11234
website: fbga.net
On Facebook
The Floyd Bennett Gardens Association, Inc. or
Floyd Bennett Community Gardeners Group Page

The Floyd Bennett Gardens Association Inc.

Rules & Policy Regulations



Welcome to the Floyd Bennett Gardens Association, Inc, located on historic Floyd Bennett Field, part of Gateway National Recreation Area Jamaica Bay Unit. We are one of the largest community gardens in the United States and a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. We are open from sunrise to sunset from April 1 through October 31.

Jill Weingarten, President
Joe Bonserio, Vice-President
Molly Battenhouse, Corresponding Secretary
Lynn Halligan, Recording Secretary
Judy Tropeano, Treasurer