

Bauer Park Community Gardens,
2016 regulations and information



**PLEASE READ AND KEEP THESE
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

General Garden Rules:

Opening day: To be determined by Beach and Recreation Department and is weather dependent, please do not start planting until Beach and Recreation Department opens the gardens. Thanks!

Vehicles: Parking is allowed along the road up to the fence. Vehicles are allowed around the perimeter of the gardens only from April 1 to June 25 and again in October and November for clean-up. This is to prevent hard packing and subsequent erosion of the meadows.

Note

Dogs: Dogs are allowed at Bauer Park and are to be leashed at all times. Feces must be cleaned up immediately. Bauer is a multi-use park and we have children and visitors in all areas of the park participating in many activities. It is our responsibility to keep these areas safe and healthy. Dogs are NOT allowed in the fenced-in garden areas at any time. Please do not allow dogs to walk in the gardens.

Note

Bird houses: For twenty years Bauer Park has participated in the Cornell Ornithology Lab Bluebird monitoring project. It is a very specific process and requires strict control of the houses and data collection. No other birdhouses are allowed on Bauer property as this interferes with data collection. Please do not put up any birdhouses in the garden plots or they will be removed.

Gardener's Work Days: All gardeners who rent plots are required to participate in Bauer clean-up days to help maintain Bauer Park. It is a required 4 hours of work time. The organized dates are listed below. If one is unable to attend an organized work day please contact the Bauer Park Garden Committee via the Beach and Recreation Office to establish an individual maintenance project. You may pay \$60 in lieu of the 4 hours work time. You may have another person work for you. We have gardeners and park visitors willing to donate hours for gardeners too ill to participate in the maintenance program. If you do not participate, pay \$60, or make arrangements, you will be denied a garden plot the following year. This is a mandatory requirement. (See dates next page)

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April 2 9am to 11 am

May 7 9am to 11 am

June 4 9am to 11 am

July 9 9am to 11 am

August 6 9am to 11am

Sept. 10 9am to 11 am

October 1 9am to 12 Fall Clean Up

October 15 Harvest Festival

Tool Sheds: Garden tools may be stored in the sheds, please allow room for your garden neighbor's tools.

Watering: Spigots are placed throughout the gardens. "Unmanned" sprinklers are not allowed. We suggest hand-watering as it is much more efficient than sprinklers. The water comes from the pond and is NON- potable. Do not drink!

Application Procedure;

- We encourage you to apply through the mail.
 - Use the attached form and mail to: Town of Madison, Recreation Department, 8 Campus Drive, Madison, Connecticut 06443.
 - Make a non-refundable payment to "Town of Madison"

- Renew in person at the Recreation Department.

- The entire Community garden area will be turned and staked as soon as the ground can be worked. Please wait until the garden is turned and staked before planting or putting up individual fences. **Please do not start planting until the town has prepared the plots, the date is weather dependent and will be posted at the park and emails will be sent to everyone who has rented a plot. We anticipate the opening date as being early in April. We do not provide individual plot roto-tilling.**

- Deadline for renewal is **April 1, 2016.**
- New gardener applications will be accepted beginning **April 11, 2016.**
- Returning gardeners who wish to add space may do so starting May 2, 2016
- Gardeners who have lost their plots due to infractions of the rules must wait until May 9th to rent a plot if there are any available at that time.



Plot Descriptions

Plot Type	Size	Cost	Description
Garden	Approximately 20' x 20'	\$25	no non-organic pesticides are to be applied
Organic	Approximately 20' x 20'	\$25	no non-organic pesticides or fertilizers are to be applied
Payment in lieu of 4 hours work time		\$60	Payment in lieu of participation in the Bauer Maintenance
Greenhouse Space	varies	\$5	please contact Beach and Rec for availability

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Use of non-organic chemical pesticides is strictly prohibited in any garden at Bauer Park

Please supervise children. We strongly encourage their participation in gardening activities while they receive your guidance and direction.

Plot Assignment, Number of Plots & Cultivation Deadlines

- Plots in the Community Gardens will be reassigned to gardeners who renew by April 1, 2016 unless they did not clean up their plots or volunteer for the required 4 hours in 2015.
- Beginning April 11, 2016 plots in all gardens will be made available to new gardeners on a first come, first served basis until all plots are assigned.
- ***You may have up to two plots*** (*Beach & Recreation Department has the discretion to limit the number of plots assigned*) in either the Community Garden or Organic Garden that will be automatically reassigned yearly, you may rent a third plot after May 2, 2016 if there are any available. The third plot will not be automatically reassigned in 2016.
- Beginning on May 9, 2016 gardeners who have lost plots due to infractions of the rules may reapply for a plot as available.
- **Plots that are rented, but not cultivated by June 13th, 2016 will be made available to other gardeners for a \$15 fee. You will automatically lose your option to reserve the plot next year*.**

*If you are unable to meet this deadline, but have every intention of utilizing the plot by July 1, you must call 203-245-5624 before the deadline. If the plot is not planted by July 1st 2016 it will be utilized for food share.

- **Plot Cleanup:** You are required to remove any fencing or gardening stakes you have placed on your plot by (**end of day**) Saturday, November 26th, 2016. Each plot must be cleared of all stakes, non-organic mulch, markings, etc. If your plot is not cleared, you will be denied a plot rental the following year.

Rototilling

Individual rototilling will NOT be provided this year.

Garden and Plot maintenance and hygiene:

- Plots must be maintained in good condition and within the boundaries established
- Maintain your garden by picking your crops regularly and arranging with someone to care for your plot while you are away. Please don't waste food. Contact the Bauer Park Garden Committee via the Madison Beach and Rec Department if you are unable to pick your produce, please don't let vegetables rot on the vine.
- Keep grass walkways clear of hoses and other gardening materials

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- Bauer Park has a carry in, carry out policy for trash.
- You are encouraged to regularly tend your plot and carefully use organic insect deterrents only when absolutely necessary in all the Community Gardens. **DO NOT USE NON-ORGANIC CHEMICAL PESTICIDES.** If you use non-organic chemical pesticides you will automatically lose your option to reserve a plot the following year.
- **Fencing;** Green, black or wire mesh, no higher than four feet may be used to fence individual plots in all gardens; however, no orange fencing or barbed wire is allowed. Fences must be removed by **(end of day) Saturday, November 26th 2016.**
- **Mulches;** Mulching is an important part of gardening to conserve water and keep weeds down. However, thin plastics are meant to be covered, if left uncovered they breakdown in the sun and are very difficult to remove, often breaking into small pieces. Please use the appropriate materials and remove them by the clean-up date.
- **Garden Waste;**
 - Please place organic debris from your garden next to the sheds trying not to block the path.
 - **All non-organic material should be taken with you and disposed of properly.**

Dates to Remember 2016

Plot cultivation deadline is **June 13** and plot cleanup deadline is end of day **November 26.**

Monthly Gardener's Maintenance – meet at the classroom for tools and tasks!

April 2nd	9am-11am	August 6th	9am-11am
May 7th	9am-11am	September 10th	9am-11am
June 4th	9am-11am	October 1st	9am-Noon - Fall Clean Up
July 9th	9am-11am	October 15th	Harvest Festival

Madison Food Pantry Donations:

We will continue to have a shed available for produce donations. We encourage gardeners to donate extra produce and to have someone tend to their gardens when they are away to prevent good food from rotting in the plots. We can arrange to have produce picked in your plot if you are unable to pick it yourself or if you are away. Please contact the Bauer Park Garden Committee via the Beach and Recreation Department.

Questions

Call the Recreation Department at 203-245-5624 email: **sabistonbe@madisonct.org** questions will be forwarded to the appropriate person.