

GROW FOOD NORTHAMPTON ORGANIC COMMUNITY GARDEN GUIDE

Updated Spring 2026

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WELCOME

TO THE GROW FOOD NORTHAMPTON (GFN) ORGANIC COMMUNITY GARDEN!

Joining this community garden means you are part of Grow Food Northampton's mission to create a just and resilient local food system through sustainable stewardship of land, growing healthy food in community, and building a just, equitable, anti-racist garden community.

The Community Garden is part of The Grow Food Northampton Community Farm, which includes several farms and CSAs, and GFN programs that include:

- Summer and winter farmers markets,
- Education programs for learners of all ages including hands-on farm to school programming for public school students in Northampton,
- Free mobile farmers markets that serve Northampton residents grappling with food insecurity, and
- Ongoing advocacy for food and land access for all.



A BRIEF HISTORY

Located at the intersection of Meadow and Spring Streets in Florence, MA, the Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Garden is on the fertile floodplain of the Mill River where indigenous Nonotuk, [Nipmuc, and Pocumtuck people](#) lived and grew food for centuries before Europeans stole the land and colonized the region.

In the 1840s, the [Northampton Association for Education and Industry \(NAEI\)](#), a utopian Abolitionist community of which Sojourner Truth was a member, helped the town of Florence become a haven for people escaping slavery. NAEI farmed land now tended by Grow Food Northampton, growing sugar beets, and planting mulberry trees to support silkworms. Their goal was to demonstrate that textiles and sugar could be produced without the labor of enslaved people.



After the NAEI disbanded, local families farmed the land and grew various crops, including potatoes, corn, and tobacco. When the land went up for sale in 2009, citizens concerned about losing the last Northampton farmland to development partnered with the Trust for Public Land and the City of Northampton. Together they raised funds to purchase the 121 acres that is now the Grow Food Northampton Community Farm. (The City of Northampton purchased the land that became Florence Fields.) The following year, Grow Food Northampton was established as a nonprofit organization dedicated to food and land justice.



In 2012, the Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Garden began with 60 garden plots. The Garden has grown to over 325 plots tended by over 400 community gardeners.

Now it's your turn to help steward this rare and fertile resource in a way that respects the past, helps repair historical harms, and guides us to a future that advances food equity, racial justice, and ethical care of the land and climate. Our community garden is a place to grow food, flowers, and friendships, as well as skills and knowledge as stewards of our land and community.

Welcome to the Garden!

Andrea Dustin, Community Garden Manager

Grow Food Northampton

Land Justice Commitment

This statement is a commitment that will evolve as we work toward a just relationship with this land and our community.

This land holds us, shelters us, and nourishes us. It is a relative and living being with dignity and agency. For thousands of years, Indigenous people cultivated a relationship with this land to sustain their communities. European colonizers committed genocide of Nonotuk, Nipmuck, and Pocumtuk people and stole their land. Grow Food Northampton, as the current landowner, is still complicit in this system of colonization.

European colonizers' systems of capitalism and plantation agriculture – including here in New England – uprooted people from their homes and land in Africa, enslaved them, and stole their labor to build this nation's industrialized food system. To this day, the food system exploits the labor of people of color, is a central driver of the climate crisis, and continues to force people off the land.

We love what is now the Grow Food Northampton Community Farm. As owners and stewards of this stolen land, we must repair both past and present harms, including examining our ownership of it. We commit to moving into a just relationship with this land, Indigenous peoples, descendants of enslaved Africans, and farm and migrant laborers who continue to be exploited by capitalism and an unjust food system.

Grow Food Northampton supports people to re-establish their relationship with the land as a teacher, and place of nourishment and livelihood. We continue our work for a local food system that centers repair, freedom, dignity, and sovereignty for all.



COMMUNITY GARDENER ELIGIBILITY

APPLY FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT IF YOU WISH TO:

- Garden in community
- Care for the land and its resources
- Set aside 2-4 hours per week to maintain your plot
- Give 3 hours of community service per plot each season
- Abide by all garden rules and policies
- Support GFN's Commitment to anti-racism, and food and land justice

Individuals age 18 and older may apply for a community garden plot. Applications by younger gardeners must be cosigned by a parent or legal guardian over age 21 who agrees to all responsibilities listed in this guide and in the plot registration agreement. There is no residency requirement.

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS & FEES

Community Garden Plots

- Full plots are 20 feet by 20 feet.
- Half plots are 10 feet by 20 feet.
- Gardeners tend the same plot year after year unless they request a change. Any gardener in good standing may request a second plot if they have passed all plot checks and completed their community service hours, pending availability.
- Individuals, couples, families or members of the same household may register for one plot during their first season. Other adults residing in a household (including adult children) may be treated separately for eligibility purposes and may register for their own plots at the discretion of the Garden Manager.
- *With permission from the Garden Manager*, Primary Gardeners may transfer their plots to a Secondary Gardener already connected to the plot as long as that gardener has participated in Orientation, completed at least one full season in the Garden, and agrees to the transfer.
- Primary Gardeners may not transfer plots to anyone else.
- When a gardener gives up or abandons a plot, custody of that plot reverts to GFN, and the Garden Manager may then reassign the plot. A plot is considered abandoned if it shows no sign of being tended for more than 4 weeks.



GFN's Fee Structure reflects our commitment to enable food and land access for all.



To build a strong garden community, we welcome gardeners of varying incomes, abilities and cultural backgrounds. We prioritize BIPOC (Black, Indigenous People of Color)) gardeners, gardeners from marginalized communities, and those experiencing economic hardship. Because income shouldn't be a barrier to growing food, GFN offers a sliding fee scale and encourages gardeners to choose a fee that works for them, starting at \$0 per year. Additionally,

to demonstrate our commitment to land justice, 10% of plot fees will be given to organizations working for land justice for indigenous, BIPOC, immigrant and migrant farm workers.

- Plot fees are charged on a self-selected sliding scale. (GFN's cost per plot is about \$45 per year.)
 - Resilient Fees are \$0 to \$40.00
 - Sustainer Fees are \$45 - 60.00
 - Abundant Fees are \$65 and up.
- Plots leased after September 15th are invoiced during the following season.

GARDENER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PRIMARY GARDENER. There is one Primary Gardener per plot. The person who completes registration and is assigned a plot is the Primary Gardener. If there are several people connected to a plot, select a primary gardener who is willing to manage the “business” of the garden, including responding promptly to emails from the Garden Manager. Primary Gardeners:

- Register for the plot each season, and pay all plot and resource fees in a timely manner.
- Pass plot checks.
- Complete and report community service.
- Read and respond in a timely manner to GFN notifications of fees, plot checks, community service requirements, and other communications from the Garden Manager or Grow Food Northampton.
- Notify the Garden Manager if they no longer intend to keep the plot.



SECONDARY GARDENERS. Other people who routinely help tend a plot must be registered as Secondary Gardeners. There can be up to three registered Secondary Gardeners per plot. Secondary Gardeners:

- Complete New Gardener Orientation.
- Help maintain the plot.
- Support Primary Gardeners to tend plots, pass plot checks and meet Community Service requirements.
- Do not have financial responsibility for the plot(s).
- May be children, other family members, other household members, or friends who are not in the same household.
- May take over a plot as a Primary Gardener if the Primary Gardener notifies the Garden Manager by email of their intention to relinquish responsibility for the plot and to pass it on to the Secondary Gardener.



RESOURCES FOR GARDENERS

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN OFFERS:

- A Garden Shed containing most tools and equipment needed by gardeners
- Access to Northampton City Water from April - October
- Community spaces with picnic tables
- A composting outhouse
- Sliding scale purchases of compost and straw
- Resource areas for free wood chips and weed disposal
- Communal growing spaces including
 - Bramble patch
 - Gooseberry patch
 - Edible Hedgerow
 - The Medicine Garden
 - The Pollinator Garden, tended by the Master Gardeners of Western Massachusetts
 - Communal growing spaces for potatoes and other crops
 - Orchard and Living History plots
- Monthly work parties and other community service opportunities at the Garden, with other GFN programs, and with local programs whose mission is congruent with GFN's mission
- Free and low-cost educational workshops and community events
- Auto and bicycle parking in designated areas
- Membership in a great gardening community!



GARDENER REQUIREMENTS

ALL NEW GARDENERS MUST:

- Read this Garden Guide prior to attending Orientation
- Complete New Gardener Orientation before beginning to cultivate their plots. New gardeners will receive an orientation schedule in early spring and may sign up for a time that is most convenient to them.
- All New Primary and Secondary gardeners must attend. Orientation includes:
 - History of GFN and the Garden
 - A review of rules and guidelines.
 - A garden tour.
 - Information about the shed and outhouse locks.
 - Introduction to gardeners' new plots.
- Pay all fees in a timely manner.
- Complete and report three hours of community service per plot before the end of the calendar year.
- Pass all plot checks, and maintain their plots in accordance with rules and community standards outlined in this Guide.
- Keep up-to-date with updates and changes via the monthly garden newsletter or emails to the Garden Google Group.
- **Failure to uphold these agreements can result in forfeiture of your plot.**



THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT GARDEN RULES

RULE 1. GARDEN ORGANICALLY

- Use only organic methods, practices and products in your plot. Products must be labeled “organic” and must show the OMRI (Organic Material Review Institute) seal. If you are unsure about a product, please contact the garden manager.
- Use no chemical pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, or fertilizers.
- Avoid genetically modified seeds and seedlings and all plants treated with neonicotinoids and other chemicals that are harmful to pollinators and the soil microbiome. Seedlings and seeds from most big box stores are not suitable for an organic garden.
- Remove diseased plants and trash from your plot in a timely manner, and take them out of the community garden. DO NOT put diseased plants or trash in the weed piles.



RULE 2. COMPLETE AND REPORT COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Gardeners play a key role in caring for the garden and its resources, infrastructure, tools, and communal areas. Community service enables GFN to keep our costs low, and fosters a sense of community. Primary Gardeners commit to doing at least three hours of community service per plot, and reporting their service by December 31st.



Community Service may be completed by Primary or Secondary Gardeners, or other family members including supervised children, and by guests of the Primary Gardener. Most garden-based service opportunities occur during the gardening season. Gardeners should not count on finding service opportunities in the Garden after September. If an unexpected disability, illness, injury or family crisis makes completing the hours challenging, contact the Garden Manager as soon as possible.

In addition to doing community service in the garden, there are opportunities to volunteer for other GFN programs, including our Farmers Markets, Community Food Distribution, program support, and occasional office work.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPTIONS

- Join monthly work parties.
- Join the Plot Check Crew.
- Join one of the crews that maintain:
 - The Garden Shed
 - Composting outhouse
 - Mowers (for mower maintenance and repair)
 - Medicine Garden
- Mow paths and common areas.
- Weed common areas include weed dumps and wood chip piles.
- Tend community plantings including:
 - Edible hedgerow
 - Bramble patch and gooseberry patch
 - Medicine Garden
 - Play area
 - Compost and wood chip piles
 - Picnic tables
- Become a Garden Buddy to support gardeners facing unexpected difficulties.
- Lead an educational or social program in the Garden.
- Help maintain and repair garden infrastructure. Let the Garden Manager know if you have plumbing or carpentry skills.
- Volunteer for other tasks with Grow Food Northampton, including office work, Farmers Markets, community programs.
- Volunteer with an organization whose mission is congruent with GFN's work for land and food justice. Examples include Manna, Nuestras Raices, Northampton Survival Center,



and the Food Bank. It's a good idea to check with the Garden Manager first if you opt to volunteer for another organization.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITMENT Gardeners who do not complete 3 community service hours but have passed all plot checks and are otherwise in good standing, may complete their hours the following season. Gardeners who fail to complete any community service during two consecutive seasons may be asked to forfeit their plots.

RULE 3. PASS PLOT CHECKS.

We want all gardeners to be successful and the garden to remain welcoming and healthy. Plot Checks are conducted by a committee of fellow gardeners using the guidelines below to identify abandoned and untended plots, correct problems and rule violations, and discover if a gardener is having difficulty and needs help. Gardeners facing unexpected crises that impact their ability to pass plot checks should contact the Garden Manager immediately to make arrangements that will enable them to keep their plot. All plot checks are announced in the monthly garden newsletter, News From the Garden Shed, and via the Garden Google Group.



If a garden plot fails a plot check:

- The Primary Gardener is notified immediately and has one week to respond with a plan to rectify the situation.
- Failure to respond can lead to forfeiture of the plot and all plants and items in that plot.
- Failure to remedy the problem within two weeks of notification can lead to forfeiture of the plot and all plants and items in that plot.
- Gardeners who fail two plot checks in one season, or fail a total of three plot checks over two seasons, may forfeit their plot(s) and their right to garden with GFN for at least a year.



PLOT CHECK SCHEDULE AND CRITERIA

To pass all plot checks:

- Plot markers are clearly visible.
- Plots are recently and routinely tended.
- All plot edges are trimmed.
- Paths abutting plots are mowed.
- Hardscaping and fences are at least 6 inches inside plot boundaries.
- Plots should be weeded, with no weeds going to seed.
- There are no banned plants, materials or structures.
- Fences and hardscaping are at least 6 inches inside plot boundaries.
- There are no diseased plants. All diseased plants should be removed, bagged, and taken home by the gardener for disposal.

Early season plot check is in late May or early June. Plot must be at least 50% cultivated: planted with seedlings, seeds, or ready for planting, with most weeds removed.

Midsummer Plot Check is the last week of July or first week of August. Plots must be recently and routinely tended, with at least 75% of the plot cultivated, and weeds removed.

Late season Plot Check is mid to late October.

- Remove all weeds.
- Leave spent garden plants in place until spring as food and habitat for wildlife.
- Cover crop bare soil with annual seed such as oats or peas and/or make sure bare soil is covered with straw, or woodchips or other organic mulch to keep topsoil from blowing away. Cardboard may also be used as long as it is firmly secured against strong winter winds.
- Secure all garden structures, fences, stakes, tomato cages, etc. to withstand strong winter winds.
- Remove all trash and unwanted items from the garden.



End of the season. The Community Garden does not close. Gardeners may garden throughout fall, winter and spring, and may create low-tunnels or other non-permanent structures.

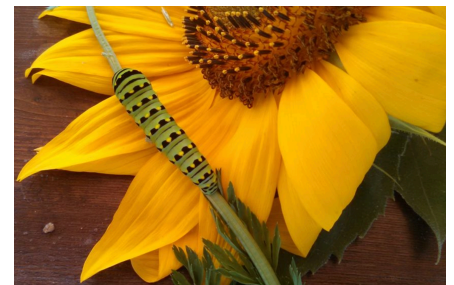
COMMUNITY GARDEN DOS AND DON'TS...

YOU MUST:

- Return all tools belonging to the Garden Shed before you leave the garden.
- Lock the shed every time you leave it. Never leave the shed unlocked while gardening, mowing, or involved in other garden activities away from the shed, even if it's just for a minute.
- Lock the shed if you notice that it is unlocked, even if you did not unlock it.
- Lock wheelbarrows and carts each time you return them to the shed. If you notice unlocked equipment, please lock it up.
- Report damaged tools and equipment to the Garden Manager.
- Respond to emails from the Garden Manager as requested concerning registration, fees, plot checks, and continued intention to garden your plot.
- Be mindful of what you put into your plot in addition to plants. *Some* additional infrastructure like paths, fences, raised beds, small compost piles, and structures to support vertical plant growth are fine. Avoid turning your plot into a storage area for excess materials as this rapidly becomes habitat for rodents and can become an eyesore to other gardeners.

YOU MAY:

- Plant annual and perennial fruits and vegetables, and most annual and perennial flowers. Check the list below for banned plants.
- Plant certain woody plants including blueberries, currants, gooseberries, and grapes. Grapes must be supported on trellises less than 6 feet high, and in a manner that doesn't significantly shade neighboring plots. (You may NOT plant brambles in your plot.)
- Create small compost bins or piles inside your plot. Do not use plastic composters. Never bring un-composted food scraps to the garden as this attracts critters who like to eat crops.
- Use cold-frames only if they have plastic or Plexiglas (not glass) covers.
- Use row covers made of Remay cloth or plastic for short periods of time. You must make sure such items are securely fastened against intense wind, and completely removed from the garden when you're done.
- Use cardboard with all tape and staples removed for weed suppression.



- Garden all year long. The garden doesn't close.
- Put fencing around your plot. Fencing must be six inches inside plot boundaries.
- Use hardscaping (rocks, bricks) for paths and boundaries. Hardscaping must be at least six inches within plot boundaries and present no danger to lawn mowers, and no tripping hazards.
- Store personal tools, hoses, and equipment at your own risk in your own plot, but not in the Garden Shed.

YOU MAY NOT:

- Store personal items in the Garden Shed, or leave unwanted items or trash in or around the Garden Shed.
- Use the following items in your plot:
 - Pressure treated wood and railroad ties.
 - Flame weeders.
 - Concrete to embed garden structures or fences.
 - Plastic compost bins.
 - Structures that include glass.
 - Soaker hoses.
- Plant seedlings or seeds treated with chemicals, pesticides or fungicides.
- Plant bramble fruits such as blackberries and raspberries, woody plants except those listed above, or trees.
- Plant marijuana or hemp, per Massachusetts law.
- Cover crop your plot for an entire season. If you are not planning to garden, relinquish the plot, or have a secondary gardener care for the plot. You may cover crop sections of your plot during the season as long as most of the plot is under cultivation.
- Use plastic sheeting or commercial weed cloth to suppress weeds. Use only cardboard, paper, leaves, straw, wood chips or other organic materials.
- Leave dirt, weeds, wood chips, soil, rocks, plants, fencing, tools, stakes or other items outside your plot boundaries or in other common areas, especially walking paths.
- Plant anything in the common areas. If you wish to donate plants, shrubs, brambles or trees, contact the Garden Manager.
- Enter the plots of other gardeners, or take seeds, cuttings, or produce without expressed permission from the plot holder.
- Drive on grass paths. That's where the irrigation pipes are, and they are fragile.
- Use tobacco, vape, marijuana, or any other controlled or smoked substances, on GFN land.
- Play any amplified sound. This includes car radios.
- Add light sources, including solar lights, to your plot

- Cultivate plants that are generally toxic to people or animals (see list below)
- Plant banned plants (see list below).

BANNED PLANTS

- Mint
- Marijuana and hemp
- Bugleweed
- Goutweed and related plants
- Bronze fennel
- Morning glory
- Japanese honeysuckle
- Non-native ornamental grasses.
- Toxic plants such as castor bean, Jimsonweed (Datura), foxglove and Sudan Grass.
- Brambles
- Most woody plants and trees. See exceptions above.

PLANTS THAT CAN QUICKLY SPREAD OUT OF CONTROL

It's okay to plant them, but be prepared to thin them out each season

- Mallow
- Lamb's ear
- Yarrow
- Bee balm
- Comfrey

COMPOSTING OUTHOUSE

- Review and follow all instructions in the outhouse.
- The Composting Outhouse is for the exclusive use of farmers, community gardeners and their guests. Do not share the combination to the outhouse.
- Report any issues to the Garden Manager.



OTHER GARDEN CONCERNS

Most of us would like to think that since this is a Community Garden, everyone always acts in the best interests of the community. While this is generally true of the Grow Food Northampton Community Garden, problems do crop up. Suggestions, concerns or complaints about the garden, how it is managed, or concerns about other gardeners or plots, should be directed to the Garden Manager (andrea@growfoodnorthampton.com or 413-320-4799, x103).

DISPUTES WITH OTHER GARDENERS

Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Gardeners generally demonstrate a high level of respect for the garden and other gardeners, but sometimes people make mistakes. If a gardener is doing something that negatively impacts you, try to have a conversation with them about your concerns. If that isn't possible, contact the Garden Manager. If you have a dispute with another gardener, first try to work it out on your own. If that doesn't work, contact the garden manager. The most common disputes with other gardeners include:



- **Weeds.** All gardeners agree to keep their plots healthy, which means keeping weeds under control and not letting them go to seed.
- **Plastic.** Do not use plastic sheeting or commercial weed barriers made of plastic for weed suppression. Instead use more organic options like cardboard, straw, woodchips, or heavy paper. Avoid putting plastic chairs or other furniture in your plots as they blow away. Plastic products may be used for floating row covers - those on hoops that have little contact with the ground, but using safer, organic materials is preferable. Check with the Garden Manager if you're unsure about which materials are okay.
- **Boundaries.** Make sure that your plot boundaries are clear to all plot neighbors. Don't let plants overgrow plot boundaries, or grow into paths. Plant things like asparagus on the outer edges of your plot, not on a shared boundary. Use orange stakes in the Garden Shed to redefine boundaries as needed.
- **Shade.** The garden is designed in a way that minimizes the impact of tall plants or structures on neighboring plots. During the growing season, even a tall hedge of asparagus will shade a neighboring plot for no more than an hour or two. Even so, it's

kinder to not create the worry in the first place. Pay attention to your sun-scape before planting taller crops.

- **Cars in the garden.**

- Gardeners should park their cars in designated areas and walk to their plots. You may park for up to ten minutes on the road near your plot to load and unload items, then move your car to a designated parking area. Please do not leave your car running while parked.
- Gardeners may obtain a permit from the Garden Manager to park near their plots for longer periods of time if they are experiencing illness, injury, or have small people sleeping safely in the car.
- Wherever you park in the garden, keep all 4 wheels on the gravel. Do not pull over onto grass or planted areas; this compacts soil and damages root structures.
- ***Never ever drive on the grass paths.*** That's where the irrigation pipes are, and they are fragile.
- The speed limit is 5 MPH at all times. Driving faster endangers people and generates dust that is harmful to plants and people. The traffic direction on the main garden loop is one way (clockwise) at all times.

PROBLEMS WITH NON-GARDENERS

The Grow Food Northampton Community Garden is for the sole and exclusive use of Grow Food Northampton and the gardeners who lease plots. Visitors are welcome to walk through the garden, but may not enter plots without the expressed permission of the gardener. All visitors are expected to respect posted rules. If you notice problem behavior by visitors, express your concern to them only if you feel safe to do so. If you don't feel comfortable or safe approaching them, please note identifying information about the individuals and their vehicles and report that to the Garden Manager.



If you witness incidents that present physical danger to yourself, other gardeners, or the Community Garden, call 911 immediately, then contact the Garden Manager.

ILLNESS AND INJURY WHILE AT THE GARDEN

On rare occasions, gardeners fall ill or become injured while at the Garden. There is a basic first aid kit in the Garden Shed for minor injuries. If the illness or injury is more serious, please call

911, get support from other gardeners if possible, and let the Garden Manager know of the incident. DEFIBRILLATOR.

CHILDREN

Children are welcome in the Garden and encouraged to contribute to community service and to join monthly work parties. Children under 12 must be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times.

GUESTS

Guests are welcome in the garden. Gardeners are responsible for ensuring their guests follow all garden rules.



DOGS

Dogs are welcome in the garden as long as they are on a leash and under control at all times, per Northampton City ordinance. Never let dogs pee or poop in any plot or common food areas in the garden. Always pick up after your dog and dispose of the waste at home. *Never* dispose of dog waste in the composting outhouse or in the weed piles.

THEFT AND VANDALISM

On rare occasions plants, produce or tools have been taken from gardeners' plots. Occasionally plots have been vandalized. Sometimes the culprits are two-legged critters, often it's four-legged critters, and usually it's difficult to know for sure. There isn't much we can do to recover lost or damaged items, but it is helpful to report issues to the Garden Manager to establish if there is a pattern.

NOISE

- Amplified sound is not permitted except during events organized by GFN.
- Use headphones for personal listening.
- Turn off cars and car radios.
- Keep cell phones and conversations to a reasonable volume.
- Per Northampton's noise ordinance, loud machinery (like mowers) may not be used between 10PM and 7AM.

WASTE, LITTER AND UNWANTED STUFF

- Take all diseased plants, kitchen scraps, trash, and dog poop or other waste material out of the Garden and dispose of them appropriately at your own residence.
- Put only weeds and non-diseased plants in the weed piles.
- Do not leave personal items in the shed or in other common areas.
- If you have useful items to donate to other gardeners, keep them in your plot and offer them via the Google Group. Never leave them in common areas.

BICYCLES IN THE GARDEN

- Use the bike rack near the Play Area; or
- Keep your bike in or next to your plot, or in a community area near your plot.
- DO NOT lean or lock bikes on the Shed, Outhouse, or Garden signs.
- *NEVER* lean bikes against spigots.

WILDLIFE

- Respect wildlife in and around the Garden. Do not kill, harass or remove wildlife.
- Traps or poisons of any kind are not allowed.
- Use only organic and non-lethal methods to repel rodents and other pests from your plot. Avoid leaving any food scraps in or around your plot.
- If ground-nesting birds nest in your plot, notify the Garden Manager. Federal law requires leaving the nests undisturbed until the chicks have fledged. Gardeners with nests in their plots receive community service hours in exchange for not gardening until the birds have fledged.
- Report injured or diseased wildlife to the Garden Manager.
- Gardeners may put birdhouses in their plots and may tend them as they see fit.



GARDEN COMMUNICATIONS

All Primary and Secondary gardeners agree to keep up to date with garden communications that update rules and policies, highlight concerns, and announce plot checks, community service opportunities, events and workshops.

- [*News from the Garden Shed*](#) is the official newsletter for the Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Garden. Published monthly during the growing season, it comes by email and is available online. If you are not receiving the newsletter or need a paper copy, please inform the Garden Manager. Please do not opt out of receiving this newsletter. If you do, you will stop getting most Community Garden notifications, including registration information the following season.
- [*The Garden Google Group*](#) is a moderated email group to enable gardeners to communicate with each other specifically about garden matters. You may request advice, share seeds, plants, and usable garden items, enlist someone to help water or harvest your plot if you cannot, and more. All gardeners are automatically added to the list, and may opt out anytime.
- [*Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Garden Facebook Group*](#) is a place to share your stories and images of community gardening. Membership is optional but fun.
- *Grow Food Northampton Monthly Newsletter*. Gardeners are automatically subscribed to the GFN Monthly Newsletter, which provides timely updates about our work to promote equitable food and land access in the region. Please do not opt out, since this will also stop the Garden Newsletter and registration information.
- Visit the [*Grow Food Northampton website*](#) to learn more about the organization, our commitment to racial justice, equitable food access, and land stewardship. Check out the archive of Gardener Resources on pest management, water conservation, GMOs in the garden, soil testing, and more.



GROW FOOD NORTHAMPTON CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrative Offices:

221 Pine Street, Suite 349
Florence, MA 01062
413-320-4799

Website: www.growfoodnorthampton.org

Community Garden Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/GrowFoodNorthampton>

GFN Social Media

<https://www.instagram.com/growfoodnorthampton/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=grow%20food%20northampton>

ADDRESS

The Grow Food Northampton Organic Community Garden is located at 140 Meadow St, Florence, MA. (This is not a mailing address.)

Garden Manager Andrea Dustin: andrea@growfoodnorthampton.com, 413-320-4799, ext. 103

[Click here for a full list of Grow Food Northampton Staff, Board and Advisory Committees.](#)

