

Hanover Township Stoney Brook Community Farm and Garden

Operating Rules & Regulations

Garden Season Permits

1. Garden Season Permits shall be issued by Hanover Township, for the use of individual Garden Plots for one annual Planting season. Gardeners wishing to return for the next season must register and pay in full no later than January 15th in order to hold their spot.
2. The Garden Season Permit fee shall be determined each year.
3. The Stoney Brook Community Farm and Garden planting season shall be January 1st through December 31st.
4. Garden operating hours shall be Monday – Sunday, dawn to dusk.
5. Mandatory orientation sessions for all gardeners with plots, will be held at the beginning of the season to provide opportunity to meet your gardening neighbors and to review the site rules.
6. During Fall cleanup, all gardening materials must be removed from the garden plot by the Gardener. All plants and weeds shall be completely removed. A thoroughly clean plot is a requirement for renewing one's membership for future seasons.

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Garden Plots

7. Garden Plots will be distinguished with markers. No permanent plot borders are permitted.
8. Garden Plots shall be assigned by first come first serve basis prior to the opening of the farm each year. A waiting list will be maintained.
9. Initial rototilling of the plot can be arranged through the Garden Manager. No motorized equipment can be used in the farm by individual Gardeners without permission from Hanover Township.
10. Assigned plots shall be maintained by registered household gardeners. Maintaining a plot is the Gardener's responsibility. Plots are to be weeded on an on-going basis. Plots are to be maintained for the entire season.
11. Failure to maintain one's Assigned Plot and the pathway area around it can result in loss of the garden plot. Gardeners who fail to maintain their plots can lose garden privileges for the following season.
12. Any Gardener must notify the Advisory Committee, in writing, of their inability to maintain their plot.

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Garden Conduct & Etiquette

13. All Gardeners must follow all the rules and regulations as well as maintain good conduct and civil behavior at all times.
14. The use of amplified devices and noise shall be prohibited.
15. Smoking is strictly prohibited.
16. All garden paths must be kept free of obstructions and weeds. Gardeners are responsible for the upkeep of the pathways.
17. All plots must remain free of trash, dead plants and trellises, except for basic plant support such as tomato cages and stakes that are no higher than 5 feet.
18. All waste/trash must be disposed off-site, subject to requirements of Hanover Township. There is no waste disposable service.
19. Containers and structures that retain or allow standing water shall be prohibited.
20. Gardeners shall be permitted to install temporary structures not exceeding 5 feet in height in their plots, but any structure determined to be unsafe will be removed. Permanent structures in an individual gardener's plot are not permitted.

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21. Treated or painted wood is not permitted.
22. All soil, pesticides, fertilizers and mulch must be pre-approved by the HTSBCFG Advisory Committee. Please see list of approved items. The use of non-organic products in the garden is strictly prohibited (e.g. Miracle Grow, Preen).
23. With the exception of service animals, no dogs, cats, or other animals shall be permitted in the garden.
24. All children must be closely supervised. No playing is permitted within the garden area. Parents/guardians/adults are responsible for the direct supervision and teaching children using tools or gardening.
25. Registered Gardeners must be at least 18 years old.
26. Gardeners and visitors are not permitted to enter water or garden another Gardner's plot, not permitted to dig for worms, cut plants, or harvest from another Gardner's plot, unless the other gardener has provided explicit permission to do so.
27. Each Gardener must commit a minimum of 1 hour per month of volunteer time to the Farm's maintenance and operation during the garden season, in addition to the pre-season preparation. Failure to contribute volunteer hours may result in loss of garden privileges for the upcoming season.
28. Visitors and guests to the farm must be accompanied by a Registered Gardener at all times.

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Plants & Tools

29. Only plants approved by the Advisory Committee shall be permitted (see HTSBCFG Checklist of Prohibited Plants)
30. Growing or use of illegal substances shall result in immediate expulsion and revocation of Garden Membership.
31. Tools and equipment of the HTSBCFG must be removed from the Garden area.
32. The Garden gates and storage area must remain locked; all tools and equipment returned to their respective places; and water must be turned off and hoses stored prior to leaving the farm.

Grievances

Gardeners should direct all grievances to the Advisory Committee if they are unable to resolve with the other Gardeners. Verbally and physically abusive behavior will not be permitted or tolerated.

Maintain communication with fellow Gardeners. A conversation about an issue often can lead to great ideas, suggestions, and a quick resolution.