Welcome to Berkeley Gardens!

Congratulations on joining a diverse group of Boston neighborhood gardeners who work together to create an oasis in the city. We have built a solid foundation on volunteerism and community pride and we are pleased to welcome you!

Important Information for Today:

USE YOUR GARDEN BUDDY! They are available to you for any questions, concerns or help you might need. If you don't have one, ask for one—or ask anyone in the garden—it's a great way to meet your neighbors!

YOUR PLOT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY: You must plant and maintain it throughout the growing season... starting today!

UNWANTED PLANTS: If there is something in your plot you do not want, kindly remove it. Plants, equipment, stakes, etc. that are in good shape can be given to other gardeners or placed in the common area. Need help? Grab one of the Garden Buddies so we can help transplant to common areas.

Important Gardening Information:

BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR NEIGHBORS: Light and air are important elements for a healthy garden. If you grow vines keep them inside your plot, no structure should be over 6’ tall, your neighbors will extend the same courtesy to you.

TREES & INVASIVES: No trees, bushes, or invasive plants (like morning glory) are allowed. If you are unsure, ask someone before planting.

STRUCTURES: No large structures that increase the height above 6’ are allowed. We admit that there are gardens that do not follow this rule, but they are long time gardeners and we are working to remedy the situation.

STORAGE: Your garden is NOT a storage space; no plastic, no trash, no non-gardening materials or equipment is allowed.

TOOLS/TRASH BAGS/GARDEN HOSE: Bring your own, use your own. Sheds are opened for bi-weekly cleanups if you need larger tools such as wheelbarrows, rakes etc. Keep in mind there are no electricity outlets in the garden.

Here are some helpful tips on making your season successful. You have been designated a garden plot that is yours and yours alone—The garden is yours to enjoy as long as you follow all garden rules, fulfill your community requirements, and continue to live in the South End.
Other Very Important Information:

**DUES, LOCKS, AND KEYS:** Garden dues must be paid when you receive your garden plot. $65 for the plot plus a one time $5 lock/key fee. Cash or check only.

**WATER:** Your dues pay for water so conserve when you water. Report plumbing leaks. Use hose gaskets to prevent leaks when you water. Water is turned on in the spring and turned off in the fall on dates determined by the City of Boston. Spigots are functional between 6:00am–8:30pm daily.

**VOLUNTEER CLEANUPS:** Bi-weekly cleanups are an opportunity for you to log your 12 mandatory volunteer hours, meet your neighbors and make the entire garden shine.

**OTHER JOBS:** If you cannot do physical work or attend the **Bi-Weekly Monday Cleanups**, consider some of the other administrative jobs that are available. Jobs are posted or contact your Garden Buddy for more information.

**TRASH:** Any trash or garden debris is to be collected and taken home to be disposed of on your regular city trash day.

**SAFETY:** Reminder that the garden is located in the city—and, while safe, please be mindful of your surroundings and be sure to lock your garden up when you leave. **Always report suspicious activities to leadership: info@berkeleygardens.org and call the police: 617-3434-911.**

**MAINTENANCE CREW:** If you have any questions about structure/repair issues in your garden or in the garden in general, or are interested in helping with maintenance, contact the maintenance team at info@berkeleygardens.org.

**SOUTH END COMMUNITY:** The Garden Community consists of non-garden members that live in and around this area. Keeping the garden clean and in good condition is part of our responsibility. If you have any thoughts or idea please share them (info@berkeleygardens.org).

The Garden Leadership

Consider joining the Garden Leadership! It is comprised of fellow gardeners who have volunteered their time and services to help keep the garden running.

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**
1) Coordinating garden events/projects
2) Maintaining the BCG Web site
3) Overseeing garden logistics
4) Collaborating with the City of Boston on garden initiatives

We rely on the community’s participation to accomplish tasks and address garden issues.

Again, welcome to the garden! Have fun, be creative, and good luck!!! —Your Garden Leadership

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**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Additional VERY important Information can be found at: [www.berkeleygardens.org](http://www.berkeleygardens.org) and [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org). If you have questions that were not answered today, or have questions through the season: [info@berkeleygardens.org](mailto:info@berkeleygardens.org).

If you do not make bi-weekly cleanups, but do work on your own, report your hours to: [cleanups@berkeleygardens.org](mailto:cleanups@berkeleygardens.org).

- Berkeley garden is owned by the Trustees [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)
- General Garden Information: [info@berkeleygardens.org](mailto:info@berkeleygardens.org)
- Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/berkeleygardens](http://www.facebook.com/berkeleygardens)
- Flickr photos, use this hashtag: #berkeleycommunitygarden
- Yahoo email list: [groups.yahoo.com/group/berkeleygardens](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/berkeleygardens)