

Borough of Hawthorne
Community Garden Rules for 2026

Plot assignments:

1. There will be 4 x 8 or 4 x 12 garden beds assigned to each gardener. Each gardener must fill out the application form, disclaimer and pay associated fees, no plot will be assigned unless these forms are completed. For the gardeners returning, the gardener will utilize the same assigned garden bed from the previous season.
2. Contact information:
3. Proof of Residency documentation (the proof of residency must be current – postmarked within the past 30 days – utility bill, cable or credit card bill, monthly bank statement, or most recent lease or tax bill)
4. Access to the garden is limited to participants.

FEES ASSOCIATED WITH EACH PLOT/BED:

Two checks totaling \$50.00 payable to Borough of Hawthorne – deposit check \$25.00 and \$25.00 fee per BED/plot. If there are no rule infractions, the deposit check for \$25.00 will be returned at the end of the planting/harvesting season.

The gardeners that are returning from the 2025 season do not need to submit a deposit check for \$25.00.

Rules and regulations:

1. June 1st deadline for planting
2. Hours of operation: dawn to dusk
3. Plots are for gardening only - Loss of future gardening privileges will result for any rule infraction.
4. Please consider neighboring plots when choosing plants – tall plants such as sunflowers, or corn may infringe on the sunlight in surrounding areas
5. Garden tools are not to be stored on site, items should be taken home and any waste, refuse should be removed from community garden site. ***(Carry In and Carry Out)***
6. The watering of gardens must be attended at all times, gardeners who leave their plots unattended while watering will be contacted.
7. Gardeners are required to remove the weeds and grasses in the walkways, around the garden beds, and inside the garden beds. Motto of the Garden “You see a weed, remove the weed.” It is everyone’s responsibility.

8. No animals allowed on site.
9. No signs of any type will be allowed.
10. Respect for other gardeners is an important element and disrespect will not be tolerated.
11. No herbicides/pesticides are permitted to be used.
12. Children must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all time.
13. Garden hours will be posted.
14. Gardeners may only harvest their own vegetables, herbs, or annuals.
15. At the end of the season, each participant is responsible for clearing their plot of all plant material and leaving the plot as they found it in the spring.
16. No smoking in or around the community garden.
17. Gardeners who fail to maintain their plots or do not take care of their plot, will be contacted and given 5 days to clean up the plot. Continued inactivity will be viewed as abandonment of the garden plot and the plot will be forfeited without refund.
18. When a gardeners growing season is completed, plots should be completely cleaned up by the end of October. However, we are allowing gardeners who have crops still growing past the end of October, to clean their beds no later than the Thanksgiving weekend. The entire garden will be closed for the season Thanksgiving weekend.