

*Welcome to the new and improved*  
**THE EDITH SALZER ORGANIC  
COMMUNITY GARDEN  
RULES & REGULATIONS**

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**I. NEW & RENEWAL APPLICATIONS**

Organic Garden renewal applications and payments must be received by April 7th or plots can be assigned to another gardener. After this deadline, any plots unpaid for may be offered to new garden applicants. New gardeners are accepted on a first-come first-serve basis. The non-refundable annual fee to lease a plot is \$35 (\$30 for Seniors 60+).

No guarantee of present or future plot assignment, renewal or continuation in the Organic Garden Program is made or implied.

All Organic Gardeners must sign a Hold Harmless & Indemnification Agreement.

**II. GARDEN SEASON**

Months of Operation: **April 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>** (*expanded this year*)

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, gates are locked for the season.

Hours of Operation during season: **7:00 AM to 8:00 PM** (*expanded this year*)

Water Service: Turned on by April 15<sup>th</sup> and will be turned off by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Garden plots must be cultivated by June 1st.** Garden plots not cultivated by this date are subject to being reclaimed by the TOB and the garden reassigned. Prior participants will have no recourse other than to apply for a new plot and be put on the waiting list.

End of Season: **Each garden plot should be cleaned out and all personal property removed by the end of season.** There will be no access to the Organic Garden after November 30<sup>th</sup>. Everything remaining at the Garden after this date is considered abandoned and subject to disposal.

**III. INTENDED USE**

The use of Garden plots is limited to ***one plot per household***, for residents living in the Town and maintaining a Town of Babylon address.

Organic garden plots are for growing organic fruits, vegetables, or flowers. ***Note: Please no mint, raspberries, blackberries, trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses or invasive plants.***

Any commercial use involving the Organic Garden is prohibited. No bamboo or plants restricted or regulated by any laws may be planted or maintained. ***Marijuana is strictly prohibited.***

#### **A. NATURAL LOOK**

No unsightly structures, piping, screening or netting allowed. Only gardening materials, cages or stakes below four (4) feet are permitted. All stakes and cages must be removed by November 1st of each year. THE TOWN OF BABYLON WILL REMOVE ANY STRUCTURES ABOVE FOUR (4) FEET.

#### **IV. PLOT MAINTENANCE**

Garden plots must be actively maintained throughout the growing season and should be kept neat, clean and reasonably free of weeds.

Tools, stakes, and cutworm collars should be secured within the plot. Use of composite, pressure or chemically treated wood in the garden is not permitted.

Plots are inspected on a regular basis. Renters of plots that have not been planted, are weedy, or do not meet the guidelines, will be notified. Failure to respond within 10 days may result in forfeiture of the plot.

The only allowable structures within a garden plot is a storage bin no bigger than 3 ft. high, 2 feet deep and 6 feet long. Any other structures erected on garden plots may be taken down at the sole discretion of the Town.

#### **A. PATHWAYS**

Between gardens are to be kept clear at all times. All vegetation must remain inside fences and out of the way of the areas to be mowed. Please keep all vining plants from growing into adjacent plots.

Gardeners are not allowed to encroach upon or incorporate pathways as part of their gardens. Gardeners encroaching upon or incorporating pathways as part of their gardens are subject to being immediately removed from participation of the Organic Garden Program.

No materials, tools, obstruction or obstacles are allowed in pathways at any time.

#### **B. FENCING**

No unsightly structures, piping, screening or netting allowed. Only gardening materials, cages or stakes below four (4) feet are permitted.

**All stakes and cages must be removed by November 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.** THE TOWN OF BABYLON WILL REMOVE THEM and ANY STRUCTURES ABOVE FOUR (4) FEET

### C. WATERING

Water is turned on for the season by April 15<sup>th</sup> and is shut off for the season by November 1<sup>st</sup>. To reduce the risk of flooding, gardens should be watered when the owner is present on the site. Please conserve the use of water. Mulch with leaves, grass clippings, or hay to reduce water evaporation.

### D. PROHIBITED ITEMS

The use of chemical pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and/or chemical fertilizers is prohibited. Carpeting, rugs, hallway runners, plastic mulch and non-landscaping fabric are prohibited from use anywhere in the gardens or on paths. Rusted or broken chairs, fencing or other debris that can potentially become a safety hazard must be removed immediately. Any structures larger than 6 ft. x 3 ft. x 2 ft.

### V. GARBAGE AND GARDEN DEBRIS

**Take in, Take out Policy:** Trash generated by the individual that is not compostable is to be carried out by the individual. There are designated areas for dumping your organic waste. The Town will collect yard waste from the garden as needed. *Small individual composters on plots are allowed. Be advised, improperly covered vegetable waste will attract unwanted rodents to the area.*

### VI. GARDENING AMENDMENTS

Gardeners should supply their own seed, plants, organic fertilizer, and equipment for proper growing, cultivating, and harvesting of their crops.

Any leaves, mulch or manure delivered to the garden for your plot must be placed within the confines of your plot. Otherwise, they will be considered a donated amendment.

The supply of gardening amendments is not promised or assured. The Town makes no representation nor accepts any liability for the quality, content, or possible foreign debris that may be found or contained in donated gardening amendments.

### VII.

#### VEHICLES

All-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, minibikes, or other similar motorized vehicles designed or equipped to operate outside of paved surfaces of roadways are **prohibited**. Do not drive vehicles on any other surface than the paved park roadways and parking areas.

### VIII. PETS

No pets are allowed in the garden area, even if leash-restrained.

### IX. SAFETY & LIABILITY

Each registered organic gardener has the obligation to treat all other gardeners courteously and respect each other's rights, privacy and property.

In the event the Town of Babylon notifies the registered organic gardener plot holder of a deficiency

or violation of garden rules, the gardener must correct the situation immediately. Non-compliance within 10 days after notification is grounds, without further notice, for the Town of Babylon to cancel your permission to continue in the Organic Garden program and reclaim and/or reassign your plot.

It is the responsibility of individual gardeners to maintain their plot and surrounding area in a clean and safe manner at all times. Each registered organic gardener is responsible for his or her own safety and actions.

Registered organic gardeners agree to be personally responsible and liable for the safety and actions of any guest they may have. The registered Organic Garden participant accepts personal responsibility as specifically noted in the Hold Harmless & Indemnification Agreement that is required from every participant.

The Town Attorney's office requires every registered organic gardener to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement releasing the Town of Babylon from any claim or responsibility of any loss, theft, damage and/or personal injury in connection with the Organic Garden.

The Town reserves all rights of enforcement to ensure compliance by gardener with all federal, state, local laws and code in addition to these "Rules and Regulations" for the "Organic Garden" including, but not limited to legal prosecution of violation of any federal, state, local laws, codes or rules. Program participants are advised to **call the Town's 24/7 Public Safety hotline at 631-422-7600 to report any suspicious behavior.**

## **X. POLICY**

The Edith Salzer Community Garden is designated as an organic garden, and as such, certain guidelines have been established. The policies of the garden will be enforced and were devised to keep the garden as it was originally designated.

Gardeners who fail to adhere to the fertilizer and pesticide policy will not be allowed to use the garden.

All fertilizers and pesticides must be organic and should consist of plant or natural matter with no chemical additives.

## **A. FERTILIZERS**

Acceptable fertilizing materials are: compost, manure, fish meal, fish emulsions, blood meal, alfalfa meal, bone meal, colloidal phosphate, rock phosphate, greensand, limestone or a blend of any of the aforementioned.

Soil additives, which are acceptable, are all green manures, (buckwheat, rye, alfalfa, etc.) and sea based foliage (kelp, eelgrass and seaweed)

## **B. PESTICIDES**

Acceptable pest control is: Dispel or other forms of BT (Bacillus Thuringiensis), M-One (BT), safer soap, rotenone, sabadilla and Ryania or any combination of aforementioned.

## **C. ABSOLUTELY NOT PERMITTED:**

Miracle Grow, Sevin (Carbaryl), Dursban, Diazinon & Malathion

## **PLEASE NOTE**

The Town of Babylon owns the Organic Garden property and as such reserves the right to change and/or modify rules, requirements, access, future programs, the continuation of the Organic Garden Program and all other decisions regarding the property at any time with no recourse by any person or entity.

The Town reserves all rights of enforcement, prosecution and/or cooperation to ensure compliance with all federal, state, local laws and codes in addition to all rules and requirements of the Organic Garden.

The Town may, but is not required to, in its own opinion and at its own discretion, remove any object(s) that are not keeping with the rules, the look or stated or implied intent of the Organic Garden Program.

The Town may limit and/or rescind any or all access, permits or use of the Organic Garden or the property at any time without notice.

**Any issues dealing with the Organic Garden area, grounds or maintenance should be addressed to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (631)893-2100**

**Please call the Town's 24/7 Public Safety hotline at 631-422-7600 to report any suspicious behavior.**

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Please print, sign and date below in acknowledgement of the above rules...

**Name (print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sign** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

For Office Use Only

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_