

# Town of Orleans Conservation Commission

Town Hall • 19 School Road • Orleans, Massachusetts 02653-3699  
Tel: (508) 240-3700 Ext. 2425 / Fax: (508) 240-3388

## Sea Call Farm Rules, Responsibilities, & Information

Sea Call Farm is a historic 6.35-acre property acquired by the Town of Orleans for \$1,650,000 in 1987. This Conservation property is home to 30 garden plots which are maintained each season by residents of Orleans. Sea Call Farm is open to all visitors.

The entire property is managed by the Conservation Commission. For questions or concerns, contact Kristyna Smith at the Town Hall (508 240-3700 x2425, [ksmith@town.orleans.ma.us](mailto:ksmith@town.orleans.ma.us))

### MEMBERSHIP

- Membership is open to any resident of the Town of Orleans. The Town allows just one plot per household.
- Each gardener shall be allotted a maximum of one full plot (approximately 20'x20') @ \$35 per year. Half plots can also be arranged @ \$20 per year.
- Membership is for one growing season with eligibility for renewal for the following season.
- Privileges may be revoked at any time due to failure to comply with garden responsibilities.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- If by **June 15<sup>th</sup>**, significant gardening activity, defined as planting one third of the plot, has not taken place, membership may be revoked, after notice and without refund, and your plot will be given to someone on the waiting list. Members who are assigned plots after May 30<sup>th</sup> will not be subject to this responsibility.
- Plots and surrounding paths shall be kept free of weeds and debris.
- Your plot is expected to be fully planted (at least 70% of the area) and to be maintained (weeded and produce harvested) throughout the grow season.
- Plots shall be maintained by the gardener to whom it is assigned; subletting of plots is not permitted.
- Water is only to be used when in attendance.
- Any generated rubbish shall be removed on a daily basis.
- Respect your garden neighbors.
- All spent plants and support structures (tomato cages, etc.) must be cleared after crops have been harvested and plants have finished their growing season. You may leave pollinator plants and those that provide food or refuge to beneficial birds and insects.
- Damage, vandalism, or other such activity on site should be reported to the Conservation office.
- All regulations which apply to Orleans Conservation areas shall be adhered to (<https://www.town.orleans.ma.us/conservation/pages/conservation-properties>)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Non-organic chemical herbicides are prohibited** on the property and only organic pesticides may be applied to crops.
- **Only compost and organic fertilizers** are allowed.
- Growing of marijuana is prohibited on town properties.
- No commercial activity of any kind is permitted on site, and no garden products can be sold for profit.
- Cars should be parked in the lot adjacent to Tonset Road. Parking on the grass is prohibited.
- Garden plots are in great demand. Any gardener who is not compliant with the rules will receive written notice from the Conservation Department. If, after notice, the problem is not addressed, gardening privileges may be revoked.

## GARDEN COORDINATORS

- All gardeners are responsible for the care of the garden as a whole. Garden Coordinators are available for questions, concerns, and maybe even a little gardening advice! They will keep you up to date with information you need throughout the season and may request your assistance from time to time with minor garden tasks.
- The garden coordinators are responsible for facilitating adherence to garden rules and responsibilities.
- The garden coordinators work with gardeners to resolve problems and are available to assist those who may have concerns or temporary difficulty with garden maintenance.
- Contact information for Coordinators:
  - **Judy Ryon: 774 801-2653 (h) and 774 216 9310; [jjryon@yahoo.com](mailto:jjryon@yahoo.com)**
  - **Jan Roberts: 508-255-6281; [jar.jrr@comcast.net](mailto:jar.jrr@comcast.net)**

## REQUESTING A GARDEN PLOT

- Plot requests can be made by contacting Kristyna Smith at the Conservation office (508-240-3700 x2425 or [ksmith@town.orleans.ma.us](mailto:ksmith@town.orleans.ma.us)).

## RENEWING YOUR PLOT

- Gardeners who are in good standing will receive a renewal contract by mail from the Conservation office in early March. Those who wish to renew their membership for the upcoming season must submit their signed forms with plot payment, to the Conservation office **by April 1st**. *If signed forms and/or fees are not received, we will assume the gardener has chosen to decline membership for that season and your plot will become available to someone on the waiting list.*
- Before assigning plots to new gardeners, full plots may be offered to those with half plots who have requested larger plots according to the date of application for a full plot.
- Vacated plots are assigned by the Conservation office to individuals at the top of a waiting list maintained according to dates of original request. Plots may not be passed down to family members or friends.
- Gardeners may be asked to consider changing plot location voluntarily during the reallocation process.