



2024 Stow Community Gardens Raised Garden Bed Application

The Stow Community Gardens are located on Tuttle Lane -- one of the most beautiful scenic roads in Stow, and part of the Captain Sargent Conservation Area, owned and managed by the Stow Conservation Commission. It's a friendly and inviting place to grow your vegetables and flowers, meet and exchange ideas with other gardeners, picnic, and learn the joys of gardening.

Nine raised garden beds are available. These raised beds allow those with mobility challenges to garden at the Community Gardens. Funding for the raised beds and other improvements at the Stow Community Gardens was provided through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Each raised bed is 4' x 8' x 2' high, filled with compost and ready to garden. The raised bed plot area is completely fenced in and the paths around the beds are woodchipped. A well pitcher pump and watering can are located inside the raised bed plot area. A compost bin is available.

The approximate gardening season runs from early May through October depending on weather. **Gardeners will receive an email with garden bed assignments once the beds are assigned.** A waitlist will be created for those who are not assigned a raised bed.

Raised Bed Community Garden Rules & Regulations

1. Vehicles must not be left parked on the access roads around the garden. Please park off the access road so others can pass.
2. All paths must be kept clear around the raised beds. No items should be stored within the aisles.
3. Gardeners must comply with all Town Conservation Land Regulations.
4. *All beds must be in active use by **May 25** or may be reassigned with no refund.* Please notify the Conservation Office if you cannot make that deadline or do not think you will be gardening this season.
5. ***Gardeners that are not actively gardening or maintaining their plot may be put on notice regarding their status and their beds may be reassigned with no refund.***
6. Gardeners are responsible for the weeding and maintenance of their beds to prevent weeds from spreading outside their beds. If you are not able to maintain your bed, please notify the Conservation Department and Garden Stewards. Material to be composted must be placed in the designated area. **Composting bins within the raised bed plots are for raised bed compost only.**
7. Gardeners are asked to help keep the common areas tidy and respect their neighbor's space.
8. Only organic fertilizers may be used. No chemical herbicides, pesticides or fungicides. Please familiarize yourself with proper organic farming methods or ask the garden stewards for advice before applying any remedies.
9. Do not discard, store, or plant anything outside your bed. Keep all gardening and storage within your assigned bed and the designated storage area. The raised bed area shall not be used to store anything unrelated to gardening.

10. Upon termination of usage: All man-made or non-biodegradable materials, including trellises, stakes, tools, personal belongings, etc. must be removed by **October 31st** or a \$50 clean up fee will be assessed.
11. The Town of Stow is not responsible for stolen or damaged personal property at the gardens.
12. *Please note that garden fees must be paid with either check or money order. **The Conservation Office cannot accept cash.***
13. Failure to comply with the above rules may result in loss of gardening privileges, including the loss of the assigned plot with no refund.
14. All gardeners must comply with any and all COVID-19 guidelines.

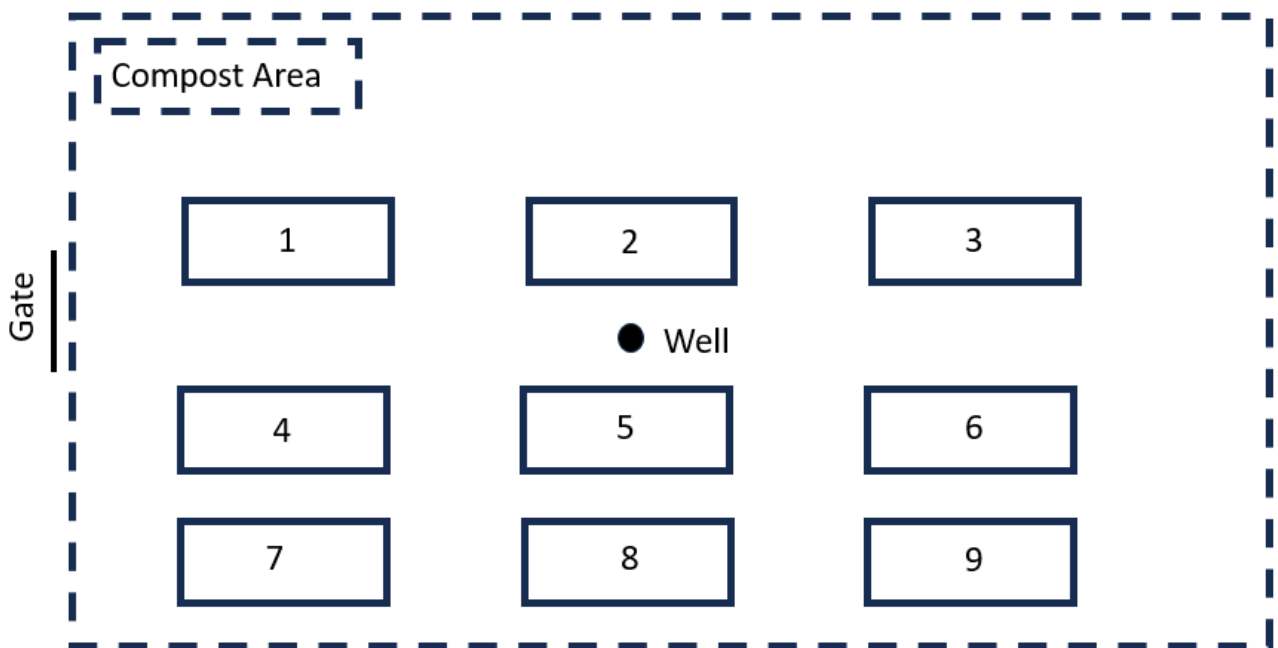
Please complete and return the attached application by March 15th (Please note the earlier deadline for raised bed applications) **along with a check payable to the Town of Stow to reserve a raised bed.** Applications may also be paid online: <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/selection>. Transportation assistance may be available for Stow Residents, please contact the Stow Council on Aging for more information 978-897-1880. When all raised beds are assigned, a wait list will be created. Your check will be returned if you are not assigned a bed. Please contact Conservation Assistant Jacquie Goring with any questions you may have at 978-897-8615 or conservation2@stow-ma.gov.

Please keep these pages for reference.



Example Raised Bed

4' x 8' x 2' tall



Raised Bed Area

The Stow Community Gardens 2024 Raised Bed Application Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email (please print legibly): _____

May we share your email address with other gardeners? ____Yes ____No

Would you like to join the gardener email list (new for 2024): ____Yes ____No

Stow Resident? ____Yes ____No

Returning 2023 Raised Bed Gardener? ____Yes
____No

Would you like a gardening mentor? ____Yes ____No

I have mobility challenges or other challenges that prevent me from gardening a full or half sized plot:
____Yes ____No

Raised bed fee for Stow Residents: \$25

Raised bed fee for Non-Stow Residents: \$35

Fee Submitted: \$_____ (checks or money orders only, no cash)

____ I/we have reviewed and understand the rules/regulations governing the use of the Stow Community Garden. (Please initial)

____ I/we agree to abide by the rules/regulations governing the use of the Stow Community Garden.

____ I/we understand that violating the rules/regulations governing the use of the Stow Community Garden may result in loss of garden privileges.

I/we hereby release and hold harmless the Town of Stow, its agents, contractors and employees from any and all actions, claims and damages for losses, personal injuries and disabilities that I/we may sustain as a result of my/our participation in the Community Garden program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Make checks or money order payable to the Town of Stow (no cash please) and mail to:
Stow Conservation Commission, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775
(978)897-8615**

Applications may also be paid for online <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/selection>.

Note: Applications are due by **March 15th** (Please note early deadline). When all raised beds are assigned, a wait list will be created. **Each gardener must sign and return this form.**