



Fenway Garden Society
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FGS' GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **Why do we emphasize reading and abiding by the Guidelines and Regulations?** While not perfect, these Guidelines and Regulations reflect the best efforts to date at compromise to meet the needs of the various constituencies visiting, gardening and taking care of The Fens including the Mayor's Office, Parks Department, police, gardeners, neighbors and visitors. As elsewhere in our society, ignorance of the Guidelines and Regulations is not a defense.
2. **How should we handle conflict between gardeners?** Gardeners may occasionally irritate each other by failing to secure gardens, creating a mess, blocking light, partying hardy, planting invasive species, etc. Try to resolve conflicts among yourselves first before involving FGS. Once you involve FGS, the resolution might not be to the liking of any of the people in conflict. In all interactions swearing, attacking, yelling, etc. are inappropriate and won't be tolerated.
3. **Why should I comply with the rules when others don't seem to?** Understand our Guidelines and Regulations enforcement limitations. Over the years our Guidelines and Regulations have changed and will continue to change going forward creating situations where "doing things the old way" won't suffice. Moreover, our enforcement of the Guidelines and Regulations is uneven due to resource limitations and occasional lapses of will. All this creates "out of code" problems but over time we're getting to it and will continue to do so.
4. **Why can't I pay my \$30 and be left alone to do my own thing?** There is much to be done in keeping our common areas clean, composting, repair and maintenance, etc. To get it all done, every one must participate, especially long time gardeners and/or people with multiple plots (optional for those over 65). If you don't like the rules or the way things are run, get elected to the Board, become a Section or an Area Coordinator to make things more to your liking.
5. **Why is tending to my fence and gate Job #1?** We garden in an urban setting and there are going to be problems. One way you can make us all safer is by securing the perimeters of your plot in line with the Guidelines and Regulations. Once secured, you must maintain the perimeter. Cover and lock up anything of value. Be smart – a large gap between gate and post, a gate with design features that make it a ladder, loose gate lock chains, etc. are invitations.
6. **Is anyone allowed to enter "my" plot without my permission?** Park Rangers, police, FGS board members and clean-up crews are among those who need access to the plots. Please do not impede them in any way. Other gardeners and park visitors should ask permission. Please do not enter a plot without permission even if it has been revoked or abandoned and take anything.