



**Town of Lexington**  
**Office of Community Development**  
**Conservation Division**

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March 1, 2016

Dear Community Gardener,

Welcome to spring! This year, Lexington continues to offer community garden plots for growing organic vegetables and/or flowers at Idylwilde Conservation Area off of Middle Street and Dunback Meadow off of Allen Street. Please see the attached form for information on how to re-new your plot. The request deadline for **returning gardeners is Monday, March 21st, 2016.**

There will be NO NEW GARDENERS accepted at Dunback Meadow for the 2016 season. Plot requests for new gardeners at Idylwilde will be taken through an online registration system starting on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. No mail or in-person registrations will be accepted from new gardeners. If you have friends or family interested in becoming a new gardener at Idylwilde, please refer them to the town's community garden website: <http://www.lexingtonma.gov/conservation/pages/community-gardens>

Your garden coordinator will contact you regarding your plot assignment and will communicate with you throughout the gardening season with garden updates.

**Garden Guidelines**

Please note the Conservation Commission has a set of garden policies to govern the use of the gardens. A copy is included with this letter. Please carefully read these policies before signing up for a garden plot and check-off that you have done so on the Garden 2016 Registration Sign up form.

**Under-used Plots**

If you only used your plot minimally last year, please carefully consider when signing up whether you plan on using it consistently this year. Under-used plots create problems for neighbors, such as weed seeds and the potential for animals to nest in weedy plots. Unused or minimally used plots may be reassigned.

**Garden Maintenance and Clean-up**

**Idylwilde:** This year, we are requiring each gardener to contribute a limited amount of volunteer time to the upkeep of the gardens. Please complete the attached "Idylwilde Community Garden Volunteer Sign-Up" form and return with your registration and fee. Your garden coordinator will contact you about your volunteer assignment and what is required.

**Dunback Meadow:** Your garden coordinator will communicate with you throughout the season to organize communal cleanup and maintenance work.

**Community Service Opportunities:** Work in the gardens can be applied to fulfill high school or other required community services hours. Student/family work is highly encouraged and needed during every month of the season. Garden leaders can work with small groups of students on maintenance or improvement projects. Please contact your garden coordinator for ideas.

**Additional Information about the Dunback Meadow Garden**

Your garden coordinator is Alix Bartsch, 781-862-2716, [alibartsch@rcn.com](mailto:alibartsch@rcn.com). The fee for plots is \$20 per 20' x 20' plot.

**Additional Information about the Idylwilde Garden**

Your garden coordinator is Don Kozak, 339-223-0686, [donkozak@hotmail.com](mailto:donkozak@hotmail.com). The fee for plots is \$50 per 20' x 20' plot and \$25 per 20' x 10' half plot. Please note that gardeners are NOT allowed to install permanent structures (i.e. permanent raised beds, fences, trellises, etc.) or perennial plants except on a perennial strip designated at the edge of each plot. Any non-plant material in your plot (excluding the perennial strip) must be removed at the end of each gardening season.