



Joan D. Cutler, Chairman of the Board
Jennifer Schaeffner, Governor Appointee
Jean R. Eldridge, Treasurer
Pamela J. Foye, Assistant Treasurer

Cathy Hoog, Executive Director

Outdoor Space and Gardening Policy

The Marblehead Housing Authority (MHA) encourages residents to plant flowers and small garden areas near buildings in which they reside. It is the intention of the Housing Authority to encourage residents to personalize space and create an environment that is comfortable and attractive. Many residents take pride in their beautiful outdoor space.

In an effort to maintain the outdoor spaces in a clean, safe manner:

- Residents that wish to establish a garden or plant items outside their building must obtain prior approval from the MHA by completing a **Garden Request Form** before beginning any planting. The MHA Maintenance Department will review all requests and determine if the plantings are appropriate for the area and determine if any changes are necessary.
- Residents that have an established garden in the front/rear or near their building are encouraged to continue the garden every year but need to complete an annual **Garden Request Form**.
- Please do not disturb any existing plants or landscaping in any common areas without prior approval.
- Please do not use any chemicals herbicide, insecticide or fertilizer anywhere on MHA property as many people have allergies and sensitivities.
- Please keep the use of outside water to a minimum. Do not leave water on when you are not present. Please water your plants early in the morning or after sunset.
- Please maintain clean and uncrowded outside areas. Outdoor furniture, art sculpture and play structures must not overcrowd the areas outside, it provides an opportunity for pests to nest and creates unsafe conditions. Outdoor furniture should be able to be easily broken down and stored or easily removed for lawn mowing and landscaping.
- Fencing is not permitted.

Outdoor spaces will be monitored regularly to ensure safety of all residents. Residents will be contacted if yards are overcrowded and require items to be reduced to a safe level.

If any resident has questions about this policy or limits pertaining to items in the yard space around their unit, they can reach out to the **Housing Manager at 781-631-2580** and request assistance.

