

**SCITUATE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
POLICY GOVERNING EXTERIOR AND GROUNDS OF LEASED PROPERTY  
CENTRAL PARK, LINCOLN PARK, AND WHEELER PARK**

Scituate Housing Authority (SHA) has adopted the following Grounds and Leased Property Policy pertaining to maintenance, upkeep, storage, and restriction of recreation material (or other outdoor items) on SHA property. Property, as defined for the purposes of this policy, shall include: the residential unit, all common areas, back or side yards, and parking areas within the complex.

The grounds around each building are the property of the Scituate Housing Authority. Outside water spigots will be available for use by tenants between Memorial Day and Labor Day, except in the case of a Town wide water ban, at which time the spigots may be turned off in compliance with the Town. All tenants must follow Town of Scituate Water Use Rules and Restrictions.

**Option 1: Potted Plants only (4/1)**

Each apartment is allowed 4 one gallon pots and 1 pole hanger.

**Option 2: New In-Ground Plantings (8/0)**

In-ground plant area allowance is 8 square feet per apartment (no pole hanger) that is in an easily determined configuration: 2' x 4'; 1' x 8'; or 2 spaces, but not 3 spaces.

**Option 3: Combination (2/4/0)**

Allowance is half potted plants (2 pots) and half in-ground (4 square feet) and no pole hanger

**ALL Gardening:**

1. Pot/Plant locations have to be approved by SHA staff.
2. SHA allows flowers in front of the building and vegetables in the rear.
3. Existing in-ground plants can stay as long as they are cared for (See #4, 5, 6, 7 below ) and are included in tenant gardening allowance.
4. Tenant (or their designee) is required to care for their planting area weekly, with annual cleaning and preparation.
5. Tenant is responsible to “not impede” SHA staff maintenance of the landscape around the garden plants and pole.
6. Plants may be bordered by (brown, red, black) mulch only (no stone).
7. Any tenant hoses need to be picked up every evening and placed away from any walkway.
8. If the above are not met, SHA may revoke the gardening privilege.
9. After gardening care has stopped, SHA may return the site to lawn.

In effort to prevent infestation, SHA does not allow bird feeders and feeding of any wildlife or pets outdoors. We agree with tenants who do not want to invite wildlife and infestations into our homes.

If any dispute arises, the Executive Director (E.D.) is directed to resolve all disputes at his/her discretion, with reasonable considerations. Reasonable consent will not be withheld. E.D. may revoke gardening privilege. There is no appeal to E.D. decision. Any disputes not resolved will result in removal of the planting area. In such event, SHA may simply restore the garden to easily maintainable area.

### **RESTRICTIONS -YARDS & PORCHES**

SHA allows lawn furniture designed for outdoor use on porches or in the backyard. Couches, chairs, or other furniture designed for indoor use will not be allowed as outdoor lawn furniture. Tenant is responsible to “not impede” SHA staff maintenance of the landscape.

The common front and back yards are maintained by the Scituate Housing Authority Maintenance Staff. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the residents to keep the yards free of all litter and debris and to remove other belongings (i.e. hoses, lawn furniture, picnic tables, outdoor benches) from these areas which may affect the safety of workmen while mowing. Garden tools must be stored within tenant’s unit. All lawn furniture must be stored in tenant’s unit or off site. If items are found in these areas and those items obstruct maintenance work and/or mowing of the common yards, they will be removed and discarded without further notice.

### **BUILDING EXTERIOR**

Residents are strictly prohibited from causing any damage or making any alteration or attachment to the exterior of the building. This includes painting, attaching signs, ropes, wiring, cable, removing or damaging siding or shingles. All attachments will be removed by the SHA without notice and repairs to damaged areas will be charged to the resident.

Adopted as amended May 14, 2024 *DFO*  
Scituate Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners