

Harlow Hill Allotment Association

POLICY ON THE USE OF WATER ON THE ALLOTMENT SITE

Water is essential for plants to grow. It is particularly important that seedlings get sufficient water until they become established and their roots can find their own moisture deeper in the ground. Our site is based on heavy clay, so watering is rarely needed once plants are established.

The mains water supply on the site is turned on during the cultivation season (turned on at the start of April and switched off at the end of October).

The plot rent is inclusive of a water rate. Plot holders may water their plot with a watering can, and may use a hosepipe to fill a butt on their plot. On payment of an additional fee for a water licence, plot holders may use a hand held hosepipe on their plot during the current season. Sprinklers and unattended hosepipes are never allowed.

Hosepipe licence

1. The hosepipe licence costs £15 and is valid for the year of issue. On payment, the plot holder will be issued with a licence for the calendar year. *(See example below)*
2. The licence is for a hand-held hosepipe used for a maximum of 30 minutes per day and **not for sprinklers or unattended hosepipes**.
3. The water barrels must be filled before connecting the hosepipe and must be re-filled immediately if any plot holder using a watering can requests it.

Use of taps and water barrels

1. To avoid contamination, plot holders must not use the taps or water barrels to wash their hands, vegetables or tools.
2. The water barrels should be filled up after use, so that they are kept full at all times.
3. It is not advisable to water seedlings with the water directly from the barrel, but this water is fine for established plants.
4. Use mains water sparingly and only when needed.

If plot holders have a shed or a greenhouse, they should consider setting up a rainwater collection system with water butts. Water containers should be covered and located on stable ground.

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Hosepipe licence

Plot holder:.....

Plot no.

The above is hereby permitted to use a hand-held hosepipe for plot watering during the year

Note: Sprinklers and unattended hosepipes are **not** permitted.