

Tips for Watering and Weeding the Ben Avon Flower Beds

We have 3 beds. 2 Upper beds (south) at the light on corner Belle Revere and ORB near Jan S house.
1 lower (north) across from the soccer field at ORB
2 flower pots at the borough hall on the steps

1. Check the beds several times during your weeks. Take a trash bag. Pull weeds, and check on stability of plants. Pick up any trash.
2. Deadhead any spent flowers if needed. We tried not to plant flowers that need a lot of deadheading. The only flowers which should need deadheading are the marigolds in the lower bed.
3. Water the beds thoroughly. Water at the roots and water until puddles form. Plan on spending 20-30 min actually watering the plants to really soak them. You will need extra time to get the hoses set up and put away. You can spread all this out over the weeks. But remember if it is dry and hot the watering is absolutely necessary so plan time accordingly.

The water sources are as follows:

The Upper Beds: Jan S will allow us to use her water and she has provided 3 hoses. Thanks Jan! ☺). It is somewhat confusing to describe what to do and since I have made a change which I hope makes it easier the set up will be new to everyone. I will *try* to describe what to do ☺ !! And please call if you are confused! 412 613 1373. I will either try to help over the phone or come down if I can.

First off the water source spigot is located behind her hedges. Go to the left of her front steps behind the hedges and you will see it. There is a short hose coming off the spigot and under/thru the hedges. (there is an on/off switch at the end of this connector hose so you can control the water flow at that end of the hose too if you want). 1 of the hoses is weaved thru the woods. I have it camouflaged but you will see the one end of the hose on the edge of the woods across from the connector hose by the hedge. The other end of this hose comes out of the woods to the side walk by the Belle Revere street sign (there is also an off /off switch at that end of the hose too to help you w/ controlling the water flow). Connect the hose coming from the woods to the connector hose by the hedge. Make sure the on/off valve is open.

The other 2 hoses are connected together and are wrapped on a large hose reel. This hose reel will be either by the hedge or under the tree by the front walk. There is a nozzle on this hose. Take the hose reel w/ the nozzle over the hose that comes out of the woods by Belle Revere Ct. The hose should be hidden behind a grove of Day lillies behind a house number sign. Connect the hoses by connecting the short connector reel hose to the hose from the woods and then unwind the hose and pull it over the street to the beds. It is ok if cars run over the hoses.

I know this sounds confusing but it is really much easier ☺!!!

At the Ball field: there is a spigot on the Blvd side of the Concrete building by the soccer field. It takes a special 'key' to turn it on and off. I have the key to the building and the spigot in a flower pot on my front porch (229 Hilands Ave). There is a small table to the left of my front door and there is a flower pot on the table w/ the keys in it. Or check w/ the person who watered the weeks before you.

There is a hose inside the building behind the door on the left.

I noticed when I watered the bed in May that the connection on the hose reel was not good and the water was spraying everywhere both at the spigot and the reel connection. I tried to add a rubber seal but that didn't solve the issue. I ended up just using the reel for winding and unwinding the hose and I hooked the hose directly to the spigot as I found it much easier to do this than use the reel. You can do it anyway you want.

At the Borough Hall: There is an out side spigot. I have spray painted a watering can black (so it blends better) and placed it on the steps behind one of the pots. Hopefully it won't 'walk'! I will also call Carmella at the borough hall to see if she wouldn't mind giving the 2 planters a dose now and again. But don't rely on this and always check.

I have asked the Firemen about watering on Wed as they have promised to do this again this year. They have said that they have done this in other years but it has yet to be seen. So you can't plan on them. But wouldn't that be so nice????

Anyway please feel free to call me or Carol or Sue Herchenroether or Jan Steinhauser with any questions.

As I said I will try to go w/ anyone who needs help if I can.

Thank You all again

Barb Meehan Civic Service Chair

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