



GARDEN ETIQUETTE

The Florida Botanical Gardens are open to the public, free of charge every day of the year. To ensure that each one of our guests has the most satisfying visit possible we have a few rules that we everyone to follow.

- Of course, picking or removing plant material (including flowers, fruit or seeds) from the Gardens is not permitted. Imagine if each one of our 40,000+ annual guests took a small item home – soon there would be no garden to visit. Taking pictures, however, is encouraged.
- We ask that you stay on the paths, walking through beds can seriously affect the growth of our plants. Also we ask you not to stray from designated paths in our natural areas as this can harm the protected and endangered plants and animals that call the Florida Botanical Garden home.
- We ask that all visitors respect each other and refrain from raucous behavior; including playing music on portable devices, unless you are using headphones.
- We encourage you to come by bicycle to our Gardens. However, bicycles may not be ridden through the Gardens. This is for your safety and the safety of our other guests. Bicycles may be locked to one of many racks located at each entrance and in other locations around the site.
- Active recreational sports are not allowed. This includes the use of skateboards, roller-blades and roller skates. Also ball games are not permitted.
- Dogs are allowed in the Gardens, as long as they are kept on a leash and any waste they produce is collected and disposed of properly. Dogs are not permitted in any of our natural areas. There is a serious risk to their health in these areas, and the damage they could cause to the wildlife could destroy all the habitat restoration work we are doing. We reserve the right to ask anyone with a dog to leave the Gardens at our discretion.
- The wildlife in the Gardens, from the fish to the birds, are protected. Please keep a respectable distance and do not harass or approach our wild residents. The feeding of wildlife is strictly forbidden. In addition, fishing is not allowed.
- Picnicking is permitted and encouraged in the Gardens, take advantage of the many shaded benches placed throughout. All we ask is that you dispose of your waste properly, and please, no grilling or open fires.
- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Gardens is prohibited.
- We hope you would consider not leaving any trash in the Gardens; it is easy to leave with a bit less than you brought, but if you must, please use the available recycling bins and trash containers.
- Smoking is prohibited in all buildings. We also ask that visitors not smoke when participating in public walking tours. Smoking is permitted in outdoor areas, but we ask that you dispose of cigarette butts in designated containers located throughout the grounds.
- Perhaps our most important rule is that we insist that you ENJOY YOUR VISIT!