

Member Guidelines

CURLY COMMUNITY GARDEN Inc

1. Garden Atmosphere:

- Gardeners are responsible for cultivating a friendly atmosphere and being respectful of other gardeners and visitors to the garden.

2. Garden Beds:

- All garden beds are shared beds, which are maintained and harvested at garden working bees.

3. Management Committee:

- The Management Committee consists of five to ten garden members, elected at the garden's Annual General Meeting (AGM), who meet regularly to plan and oversee the operation of the garden.
- The committee is responsible for maintaining communication with the Northern Beaches Council and fulfilling the legal requirements associated with being an Incorporated Association.

4. Working Bees:

- Working bees are held on Saturday mornings to maintain all areas of the garden, including planting and harvesting.
- Members are encouraged to arrive as early as possible so the working bee can end at the scheduled time.
- Occasionally working bees are held mid-week.
- Major working bees are scheduled as needed to work on more significant infrastructure projects.
- Members are encouraged to participate in at least 12 working bees per year and are welcome to attend every week.

5. Garden Co-ordinators

- A team of Garden Co-ordinators takes turns running garden working bees.
- Upon arriving at the garden, members should check with the Garden Co-ordinator to determine what tasks need to be done. Members may also make suggestions if they have ideas of other activities that should occur.

6. Organic Gardening and Permaculture Methods:

- Healthy soils, companion planting, biodiversity and crop rotations are used to encourage plant health and natural pest and disease control.
- Compost generated by the garden's Drop & Swap composting program is used to enrich garden beds.
- Chemical pesticides and fertilisers are not used and organic sprays are only used as a last resort.

7. Harvesting:

- Harvesting occurs during weekly working bees, with produce shared between the members in attendance.
- Members are welcome to harvest herbs from the garden at any time during the week.

8. Garden Access:

- The garden is open to both members and the general public from sunrise to sunset every day of the week.
- Amplified noise and the use of power tools is prohibited from 5pm to 9am every day and from 4pm to 8pm on Monday, Thursday and Sunday.
- On Saturdays, garden members must not park on site until after 9:30am.
- Garden members are given the combinations to the garden sheds' locks.
- Members are not permitted to use the North Curl Curl Community Centre BBQ or building, including indoor toilets, water and power sources.
- No pets, other than Guide Dogs, registered companion animals or official animals of the NSW Police, are allowed within the community centre and grounds.

9. Watering the Garden:

- Members are encouraged to join the garden's watering roster to assist with watering between working bees.
- Beds are mulched and watering is done using watering cans or hoses with a trigger nozzle to ensure efficient water use.
- Ten of the raised garden beds are wicking beds that supply water from the bottom up, so require less top watering.
- The garden's Food Forest is fitted with a sprinkler irrigation system and most of the in-the-ground planting areas are watered using a drip-line irrigation system.
- Members should adhere to the garden's Watering Guidelines and Sydney Water restrictions.

10. Garden Logbook

- Garden Co-ordinators record the working bee attendees and activities, as well as any other relevant observations and occurrences, in the Garden Logbook, which is stored in the shed.

11. Garden Tools:

- Members are encouraged to use their own garden gloves.
- Garden tools and equipment must be cleaned before being returned to their assigned location in the shed.
- Report damage or wear and tear of garden tools to the Garden Co-ordinator or a Management Committee member.

12. Waste Management:

- Members who don't compost at home are encouraged to participate in the Drop & Swap composting program.
- All other organic matter is composted on site, except plants that are diseased, have seeds or won't break down easily. These are disposed of in the garden's Green Vegetation bins.
- All non-organic waste must be taken home to be disposed of responsibly.

13. Garden Safety:

- All members must attend an orientation session to become familiar with garden procedures and safety guidelines
- Members must take full responsibility for their actions and adhere to the Safety Guidelines for Curly Community Garden when working in the garden. Participation in the garden is at the member's own risk and Curly Community Garden is not liable for any injury that may occur or for any loss of possessions.
- Report all potential dangers, accidents, injuries and near misses occurring in the garden to a Garden Co-ordinator or member of the Management Committee to note in the Garden Logbook. If necessary, fill out an Accident, Incident and Near Miss Report form.

14. Children:

- Children are encouraged to participate in the garden.
- Parents are responsible for supervising and ensuring the safety of children.
- Children under 11 are not to be left unsupervised.

15. Communication:

- Methods of communicating with garden members and with the community include face-to-face communication, emails, the garden's web site and Facebook page and occasional flyers.
- Members are encouraged to make suggestions or provide feedback about the garden in person, by email or by leaving a note in the Feedback Box in the shed.
- Members are welcome to attend Management Committee meetings and the garden's AGM.

16. Disputes:

- Members should attempt to amicably resolve any disputes with the person who is causing them concern.
- If an amicable resolution is not possible, refer any issues to the Management Committee, who will follow the guidelines for dispute resolution according to the Association's constitution.

17. Smoking and Alcohol:

- Alcohol is only to be consumed on site at specified social occasions.
- Smoking or any form of substance abuse is not permitted at the garden.

18. Member Details:

- Members are responsible for notifying the Management Committee of any change of address, phone number or email address.

19. Fees:

- The annual membership fee is renewable on 1 July each year.

20. Voting:

- An individual or household membership entitles a person or household to one vote per agenda item at the Curly Community Garden AGM.