Safety Guidelines
CURLY COMMUNITY GARDEN Inc

1. **Responsibility of Garden Members**
   - Participation in the garden is at the member's own risk.
   - Curly Community Garden Inc, members of the Curly Community Garden Management Committee and the Northern Beaches Council are not liable for any injury to members, or to their invited family and friends, or for the loss of any of their possessions.
   - Members must take full responsibility for their actions and follow these Safety Guidelines as well as the Curly Community Garden Member Guidelines.

2. **Common Sense Garden Safety**
   - Garden safety is very much about common sense and thinking about what we do.
   - Members must take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and the people they work with.
   - Garden safety and location of the First Aid Kit are part of the orientation for new members.

3. **Accidents and Hazard Identification**
   - Hazards in the garden environment include excessive sun exposure, dehydration, insect bites, injury from use of tools, inhalation of spores in soil and back strain from inappropriate lifting techniques.
   - Before commencing a task, gardeners should carefully assess the situation for possible risks to health and safety, including the materials they are working with, tools and equipment being used and personal health and wellbeing.
   - Ensure the work area and pathway is free of slipping and tripping hazards.
   - Report any potential danger, accident, incident or near miss on site. The Garden Co-ordinator must document the event in the Garden Logbook, then complete an Accident, Incident and Near Miss Report for Management Committee investigation and action.

4. **Safety of Children**

   Parents must:
   - supervise their children to ensure they don't wander off or injure themselves
   - caution children about hot tasting plants
   - caution children about toxic leaves, such as rhubarb

5. **Manual Handling and Lifting**
   - Plan the lift. If necessary use a trolley or wheelbarrow.
   - Wear protective clothing if necessary as well as gloves and covered shoes.
   - Check the load for sharp edges.
   - Ensure you have a stable footing that allows for even distribution of weight. The front foot should be beside the object, pointing in the direction of travel. The back foot should be slightly behind and hip width from the front foot.
   - To avoid back injury, do not bend over to pick up something that is heavy. Instead, bend your knees and crouch down, then lift it by straightening your legs. Keep your back straight and your arms as close to the body as possible. Keep your head raised, as this ensures your spine remains straight and you can see where you are going.
   - Ensure you have a secure hold of the object before lifting.
   - Be aware of your limitations. If in doubt, seek help to lift and move heavy or bulky materials or objects.
6. **Recommended Personal Protective Equipment**
   - Gardening gloves
   - Sunscreen and a broad-brimmed hat (sunscreen and spare hats are available in the shed)
   - A shirt with long sleeves
   - Long trousers
   - Covered shoes (when needed, e.g. using a spade or helping with construction projects)

7. **Use of Garden Tools**

- Check that tools are in good repair before using.
- Use tools only for the purpose they were intended.
- Take care to ensure that other persons are not placed at risk while using tools with sharp blades or long handles.
- Remain aware of your surroundings and work carefully and sensibly.
- Be aware of where other gardeners are working and if there are young children nearby.
- Supervise children who are using gardening tools.

8. Use of Power Tools

- Select the right tool for the job.
- If available, use a cordless power tool.
- Corded tools should never be used where any part can come in contact with water.
- Only use power tools if you have the experience and skills required to operate them.
- It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the tool is in good repair and that required safety mechanisms are in place.
- Wear appropriate protective equipment, such as safety gloves and goggles.

9. Storage

- Store materials in a designated area where they are unlikely to tip over.
- Stack and store materials neatly so they are easily accessible and out of the way of paths and places where people walk.

10. Emergency Assembly Point

- In case of an emergency, the designated assembly point is the bicycle racks to the west of the driveway.
- The Garden Co-ordinator is responsible for collecting the Garden Logbook so they can ensure all working bee attendees are accounted for.

In case of an Emergency – Ambulance, Fire or Police

Phone 000 or on mobile 122