

Dural Community Garden

Terms and Conditions

Purpose

The Dural Community Garden seeks to 'Gather, Garden and Grow.' We meet on a regular basis (times specified on our website). We gather over a shared love of gardening and seek to grow produce and grow in our relationship with each other. Dural Community Garden is run in conjunction with The Centre Dural, a local Baptist church, though we welcome people from all faiths and backgrounds.

Principals

1. The garden is communal. It is a joint effort, and all members are entitled and encouraged to contribute to its operation and planning;
2. We strive to provide equal access to all. Our garden is open to all members of the public (subject to an approved application), regardless of age, ability or gender;
3. Members are committed to working together to tend the garden, harvest is done communally at the end of each session and is supervised by a member of the community garden committee, all members will have an equal share in the harvest;
4. We are committed to giving back to our local community and will follow the principle of a 10% contribution of all harvest back to our local food bank *Hands and Feet*.

Code of Conduct

- Everyone will abide by decisions and protocols made by the committee.
- Each member will take responsibility to manage their own behavior so that there is a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.
- Children are encouraged to join the garden; however, they must be always supervised by their parents or carers. A designated children's garden bed is available for intuitive/free gardening for our younger members.
- Opinions on practice and procedure will be supported with well researched facts and should be presented to the committee in an appropriate manner;
- As such, direct feedback or criticism of other members is not welcome.
- Conflict between members will be promptly referred to the Committee for resolution.
- Gardeners will ensure they do not disturb our neighbours (both human and animals).

Member Rules and Guidelines

- All members must undergo an induction with a Dural Community Garden supervisor and be up to date with membership fees prior to accessing the garden
- Dural Community Garden members will sign in to every working bee, event or gardening session which they attend (required for insurance purposes)
- All members agree to abide by the Dural Community Garden's Safety Guidelines

Garden Safety Guidelines

The Dural Community Garden is fully committed to the health, safety and the welfare of all people attending, either as workers, volunteers, contractors, or visiting members of the public. We will make every reasonable effort to make sure Dural Community Garden is free of risk and that there are procedures in place to manage and control any potentially dangerous situations, procedures, equipment or products.

Garden safety is simple and requires all members to be aware of the safety guidelines and to use common sense.

Garden safety requires all members to rectify hazards as they appear; and/or to report to the committee to review and rectify.

Garden safety is the responsibility of all members.

Tool use

- Check the tools are in working order before using
- Use tools only for their intended purpose
- Be aware of other members of the garden when using tools (do not leave tools on the ground and check around you before use).
- Use appropriate PPE when using tools
- Report any damaged tools immediately

Sun Sense

There is a risk of sunburn and heatstroke when working outdoors. We encourage all members to be aware of the risks and prioritise their health and the health of those under their care.

- Wear a hat and appropriate clothing (i.e. lightweight long-sleeved clothing)
- Use sunscreen to avoid sunburn.
- Remember to drink plenty of water

High Risk Creatures

Not all creatures are bad, but some do bite. Please exercise caution. Dural Community Garden provides a first aid kit for minor injuries.

- Do not try to handle creepy crawlies. They may bite, sting or scratch.
- Look before lifting buckets, watering cans, boxes and other things. You can never be sure what is hiding underneath or behind.
- Do not interfere with any snakes or lizards you see in the garden.
- Wear appropriate footwear and clothing – long pants and enclosed shoes are strongly encouraged. Always wear gloves when reaching into enclosed spaces.
- If a snake or spider bites you, do not panic. Sit down immediately and call for help.

Composting

- Soils, mulches and compost all contain particulates, fungal spores and bacteria that can damage your lungs and/or carry disease. When working with these substances it is important to avoid inhaling the dust. A dust mask should be worn to avoid any risk to your health.
- Turn the compost regularly. As well as it being necessary to create healthy compost, regular turning dislodges rodents that might have set up home in the bays.
- Compost only in the bins provided. This deters rodents or other creatures from setting up home.

Lifting

- When lifting something heavy, do not bend at the hips. Bend and straighten your legs to avoid injury.
- When lifting something heavy or bulky please seek help.

Storage

- Be sure to return materials to their designated storage area.
- Store materials so that they are unlikely to fall over or spill.
- Be mindful to store materials neatly.

Caring for children

Children are welcome (encouraged!) to attend our garden. Parents and/or carers are responsible for their children at all times when attending the garden.

- Children are welcome in the garden. Consider what might be a danger to children even if it is not dangerous to adults i.e. Label hot-tasting plants such as chili or thorned plants with visual and word warnings.
- Be mindful of leaving any tools or dangerous objects within reach of little hands.

Working with Chemicals

Gardeners will rarely need to handle chemicals. Chemicals are only to be used under the direction of a supervisor.

- Gardeners are not to bring chemicals from home. Only items found within the garden shed are approved to be used within the garden.
- Chemical use should be done under the guidance of a gardener or adviser who has experience and is knowledgeable of the precautions to be taken in production, handling and application.
- When making, handing and applying insecticides please wear appropriate PPE, and ensure that there are no other people around.
- Ensure appropriate washing and cleaning of hands and the area after using chemicals

Personal Protective Equipment

Some Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided for your health and safety. Please ensure you wear the appropriate PPE, depending on the tasks you are undertaking and return it, clean, after use. Dural Community Garden encourages all members to bring the appropriate PPE with them to any working bees. Some spares are housed in our garden shed in case you forget but should not be relied upon. Please report anything that is missing or damaged to a committee member.

Some examples of PPE include:

- Earmuffs
- Dust masks
- Safety glasses
- Gardening gloves
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Long sleeved clothing
- Enclosed footwear
- First Aid Kit