

As at 24/5/19

Guidelines for Chemical Use at the Knox Community Gardens Society Inc.

PURPOSE: To provide guidance on the use of chemical substances within Knox Community Gardens by members and the public

STATEMENT: The Knox Community Gardens Society Inc. values all members' right to garden without chemical exposure to themselves and the produce they grow

Definitions

Chemical:	A compound or substance which has been artificially prepared or purified
Pollutant:	A substance that contaminates the environment, having an undesirable effect on plants or animals
Pesticide:	A substance used to kill insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals
Insecticide:	A substance used to kill insects
Herbicide:	A substance that is toxic to plants, used to kill unwanted vegetation

Conduct:

- All members, as part of joining, signed an agreement *"to be bound by the Constitution, Bylaws and General Rules of the Society being in force from time to time"*
- All members upon joining are informed of all relevant policies, by-laws, general rules and the constitution
- Any chemical use is to be according to manufactures specifications and only on your OWN allocated plot and externally only within 10 cm from the edges
- If a chemical herbicide is sprayed, a blue dye is to be added, to alert members and the public that a chemical has been used
- Chemical sprays and powders must not be used during windy conditions
- NO chemical herbicides are to be sprayed in or around any communal spaces, buildings, toilets, etc. within the community gardens licensed area

Guidelines for Chemical Use at the Knox Community Gardens Society Inc.

The Community Gardens strongly encourages all members to use non-chemical alternatives in and around your plots to control weeds, perceived pests and plant diseases.

Commitment from the Committee:

- Wherever possible to use a non-chemical alternative to control weeds in communal spaces in the gardens
- If a chemical herbicide is required to be used by the committee to control invasive noxious weeds, the area will be signposted
- To provide education to all members on non-chemical alternatives that can be used to control weeds, pests and plant diseases
- To supply and maintain whipper snippers for members use to keep plot edges weed free
- To research the most effective non-chemical alternatives to control weeds around plot edges
- To encourage all members to maintain a weed free plot, as stated in General Rule 2(b), by general communications, -newsletter articles, education sessions and “Clean Up Plot” enforcement letters.

Reporting:

If any member is found to be in breach of this policy, the committee will enforce disciplinary action as set out in the By-laws and Constitution.

Review:

These guidelines will be reviewed annually or sooner as required.

Date Endorsed by the Committee of Management:

24/5/19