



Eastney and Milton Allotment Holders' Association

ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Introduction

1. It is recognised that Eastney and Milton Allotment Holders' Association (EMAHA), through its members' use of their allotments and its Committee's decisions, may have an impact on the local environment. Although it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that any negative impact on the environment is either avoided or reduced as much as possible it is acknowledged that plot holders should be able to garden in a way that they choose - so long as they comply with the terms of the Tenancy Agreement and do not interfere with other people's use of their own allotments. It is also accepted that environmental best practice may change as scientific knowledge develops and that all plot holders should endeavour to keep an open mind and remain up to date with new developments.

Policy Aims

2. The Committee will manage EMAHA in a way that:
 - a. Promotes high standards of environmentally friendly cultivation.
 - b. Creates a wider understanding of how allotment related activity can affect the environment.
 - c. Encourages all plot holders to minimize any negative impact their activities may have on the environment.
 - d. Takes into account the effect decisions it makes may have on the environment.

Implementing the Policy

3. To achieve its aims EMAHA will:
 - a. Provide each new tenant with a 'Good Practice Guidelines' information sheet.
 - b. Encourage plot holders to:
 - 1) minimise waste and wherever possible, recycle or reuse materials
 - 2) dispose of any waste safely and responsibly
 - 3) use environmentally friendly gardening techniques
 - 4) use environmentally friendly products
 - 5) save water and use it responsibly
 - c. Discourage plot holders from burning bonfires and undertaking other activities that may pollute the atmosphere.
 - d. Draw members' attention to courses they can attend and sources of information which promote environmentally friendly methods of gardening.
 - e. Highlight issues of environmental concern via newsletters, the website and the notice boards.
 - f. Where possible, use renewable, recycled and recyclable products in Committee sponsored activities.
 - g. Provide environmentally friendly products for sale in the Association's shop.

Promoting and Monitoring the Policy

4. The Committee will promote and monitor this policy by:
 - a. Communicating the policy to all members.



- b. Providing support and guidance to plot holders seeking advice on how to implement the policy.
- c. Including 'Environmental Issues' on the Committee Meeting standing agenda.
- d. Appointing a member of the committee to keep abreast of environmental issues.
- e. In the light of environmental concerns, reviewing regularly how the Association manages water, waste, and product purchasing issues and, when necessary, developing an Action Plan to improve any aspects it sees fit.

Reviewing the Policy

- 5. This policy will be reviewed in response to emerging environmental issues and at least once every 12 months.