



MEMBER'S HANDBOOK

The Canberra City Farm sits on two hectares of land adjacent to the Jerrabomberra Wetlands. It aims to develop a hub where we can learn and share our knowledge and experience of living in harmony with our local environment. Following organic principles, we nurture healthy soil to grow healthy food, demonstrate options for sustainable living, and foster caring communities. Its values are: integrity, diversity, respect, fairness, sharing and community, ecological and societal sustainability, intergenerational equity, transparency and open communication, collaboration and inclusiveness, healthy food for all, food sovereignty

GETTING INVOLVED

Volunteer working bees

- Mondays, 10 to 11.30 am, followed by morning tea, bring a plate to share
 - Thursdays, 10 to 11.30 am
 - Sundays, 10am to noon, including **plant clinic** (bring any diseased plants in sealed bag)
- All welcome, members and non-members.

Allotments

A limited number are available on an annual basis for financial members. It is expected that allotment holders share their knowledge and assist in general maintenance of the Farm. The Farm is open to allotment-holders during daylight hours.

Access

Main gate and LESS – a code is given to all members. Please always spin the barrels so the code is not visible to others. If you are the last to leave, please check the locks on the LESS, the tool sheds, the container and lastly, the main gate. Turn off the water at the inground control point on the right of entrance to the carpark area.

Children

Please supervise any children you bring. We are a working farm with many hazards.

Assistance Dogs Only

Please do not bring your pet dog. This is for the protection of wildlife in the adjacent Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve.

What to Wear/Bring?

- Long pants, covered shoes. No thongs or sandals. Wear clothes that will protect you from common minor garden injuries like cuts and scratches, and also stings and bites (including unlikely, but possible, snakebite)
- Hat and sunscreen (sunscreen available from LESS)
- Water bottle (tap water and mugs/glasses available from the LESS)
- Gardening gloves

What Jobs Need Doing Around the Farm

Planting, harvesting, sowing seeds, propagation, compost making, pruning, weeding, shredding, building, fixing and making things, netting fruit trees, spraying (strictly organic), cleaning, sorting, making morning tea, administration, website development, social media promotion, organising events, artwork, grant-writing, fund-raising, policy development, preserving, marketing, photography, writing handbooks...that's just a start! Please let us know about your skills and what you would like to learn. We will try to give you the opportunity, and we are always open to new ideas.

Insurance

While visiting you are covered by our public liability insurance. Members are covered for personal accident insurance. Every visit, please sign our attendance book in the LESS.

Gardening Tools

Stored in the tool shed. Please handle the tools carefully to avoid injury to yourself and others and also to look after the tools. Please do not leave them lying on ground. Return all tools to the tool shed, to the place where they are meant to be stored and ensure the shed is locked if you are the last to leave. If a tool is broken or damaged, please inform the Site Management Team so that it can be repaired. There is some machinery at the Farm (eg mowers, shredder) that require training and protective equipment before use. Please ask.

Safety

First aid is everybody's business and if you don't have first aid training, we particularly encourage you to download a first-aid app to your phone (eg St John). There is a first aid kit in the LESS. A defibrillator is located outside the disabled toilet. Familiarise yourself with the locations of snake bite kits around the Farm. Be alert for snakes at all times, especially in long grass, under shrubs, when lifting covers or boxes in storage areas. Do not try to move snakes. Please report any safety incidents to info@ccfarm.org.au.

Principles to Garden By

- **Organic** please. Talk to us, or written guidance available at Canberra Organic Growers (COGS) cogs.asn.au/organic-gardening/.
- Biodegradable **mulch** only (eg non-shiny cardboard with sticky tape removed, non-shiny newsprint, non-weedy straw and hay, hessian). No weed mat.
- For **biosecurity** reasons, please don't bring to the Farm any soil or invasive plants (see www.legislation.act.gov.au/di/2015-59/current/pdf/2015-59.pdf.)
- Practice **water-wise** gardening.
- Only use wildlife-friendly fruit **netting**. environment.act.gov.au/nature-conservation/conservation-and-ecological-communities/wildlife-friendly-fruit-netting.
- **Compost** all biodegradable material, and regularly participate in making compost

MANAGING THE FARM

Committee

The Farm is an incorporated association and has a constitution. Every year at the annual general meeting (AGM) members elect a committee to manage the farm. The committee is made up of twelve people, all volunteers. As a member, you are eligible to vote at the AGM. You are also eligible to nominate for the committee if you have been a member in the 12 months prior to the AGM and also been to at least six farm events.

Subcommittees

The committee delegates some of its operational functions to subcommittees and all members are eligible (and encouraged!) to join a subcommittee (see diagram). Please let us know if you are interested in joining a subcommittee.

Teams

At the working bees the work is shared between teams. At the moment there are seven teams (see diagram). You are welcome to join any team that interests you or suits your skills.

Communications

The farm has a monthly newsletter which is emailed to members and published on our website. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram (and share!). On the third Sunday of every month we light the pizza oven and have a social event with a speaker. BYO pizza toppings. All welcome!

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF FARM

