



Yoorala Street Community Garden Inc.

Information Booklet

Our aim is to:

- provide opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, skills, experience, cultural background and income level to grow organic fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers.
- be an open, welcoming, inclusive, sustainable, educational, creative, community resource.
- foster trusting, sharing, respectful and co-operative relationships between members and with the wider community.
- promote and demonstrate environmentally sustainable practices such as organic gardening, recycling, reusing, seed saving, water conservation and energy efficiency.



A brief history

2008 - the idea of a Community Garden sprouts....

interested residents investigate opportunities and connect with the Brisbane City Council regarding options.

2010 - Steering group is formed

Brisbane City Council supports proposed site (which was the old Pony Club)

SOWN (Save Our Waterways Now) agrees to auspice the Community Garden

BCC approves permit for Community Garden

June 2010 - 1st working bee takes place

July 2010 - POD system established. Worm farms and compost areas established.

20 plots allocated to members.

2011 - tool shed installed, communal veggie patch gets underway, main entry

work begins, trenches dug and taps installed.

Governance document completed.

Water tanks rolled into position.

July 2011 - first AGM Held.

2016 - Yoorala Street Community Garden becomes Incorporated.

How it Works

The YSCG Inc. is an ORGANIC GARDEN -

NO chemical fertilizers, pesticides or fungicides are to be used on site.

The garden is made up of “communal areas” - Orchard, Herb & Flower beds, Vegetable Gardens and Native Plantings. These areas are developed and maintained by ALL members. Produce from these areas is harvested and shared among all those present at Working Bees.

There are also “Plots” rented by financial members.

Plot holders:

- are responsible for providing all materials and plants for their plot
- can work their plot at any time and the produce is theirs - (sharing and swapping is encouraged)

Some Common Questions

Q. Who does all the work in the communal garden?

A. The communal garden is maintained by members, using a POD system at weekly working bees.

Q. How does that work?

A. The YSCG Inc. is divided into PODS: Orchard & Fruit Fly; Veggie Patch; Gumnuts (Native Gardens); Maintenance & Construction. Members, who have leased a plot, **are required** to join one of the PODS and work at the regular working bees.

Members without a plot are encouraged to attend POD working bees & actively participate in the maintenance of the Communal areas.

POD working bee schedule is as below:

First Sunday of each month - Maintenance & construction

Second Sunday of each month - Orchard & Fruit Fly Pod

Third Sunday of each month - Veggie Pod

Fourth Sunday of each month - Gumnut Pod

Fifth Sunday of the month - Special Projects to be advised at prior monthly meeting.



Decided to join.. that's great!

complete the Membership Application form

pay your membership fees

come along for four Sunday working bees to be sure it's right for you

Enjoy your YSCG Inc. membership by being involved!!

Now I'm a financial member:

Do I have to have a plot?

No. As a financial member you can come along and participate in all activities without having a plot.

You may bring special skills that the YSCG Inc. would really appreciate or wish to take on an Administration role (Finance, Communication, Council & Neighbourhood Liaison) - speak up!!

How do I get my own plot?

Complete 4 working bees.

Complete the Plot Application Form.

If a plot is available you can pay your plot fee - (paid on a pro rata basis) & take it immediately.

If no plot is available, your name is added to a waitlist.

Join a Pod & commit to attending working bees.

RULES

Always follow organic gardening principles.

Keep all areas you work in safe, tidy and accessible.

Ensure all materials brought onto the site are free of fire ants and noxious weeds.

No produce from the garden is to be sold - This is a Brisbane City Council Regulation.

Harvesting of the communal areas only happens at working bees.

Dog, cats and other pets are not to be brought into the enclosed garden area.

Every attempt to conserve water should be made. (Members will be advised about water usage rules from time to time dependent on whether the water is from our tanks or the mains supply).

GUIDELINES

Participate in a way that reflects the principles and values of YSCG Inc. as per this document.

Pay membership fees each year as set by the membership prior to the AGM.

Encourage trusting, sharing, respectful and co-operative relationships between members, and between the garden and the wider community.

Abide by the decision making processes decided on by the membership.

Participate in general working bees and attend general monthly meetings where all members can contribute to planning and decision making.

When arriving or leaving the garden please drive carefully. This is a public space used by children. Treat all neighbours with respect and welcome visitors to our garden.

Members are encouraged to share a cuppa after Sunday working bees. To cover the cost of supplies, please contribute to the Honesty Tin or bring a plate of food to share.

Other things you should know....

Meetings & Decision Making

Meetings are held on the 1st Sunday of the month following the working bee and usually run for an hour.

Meetings are where issues are raised; uncertainties are clarified; finances allocated and social events planned. PODS request money at the meetings. No money is to be spent without approval.

Decisions are reached by consensus. Committee & Office bearers are elected at the AGM and do not make decisions independently from the monthly meetings. They are only called on to make a decision if the group fails to reach consensus.

Insurance

Public Liability Insurance for YSCG Inc. is covered under the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria Inc. Policy. A copy of the Certificate of Placement is available for viewing if required. Please speak with the Secretary.

Other things you should know....

Resources

Recycled material on site is for communal use, the exception is the material in the Plot Holders recycle section.

Pizza Oven and BBQ are for organised events only, not private use.

Tools belonging to the garden can be used by members whilst at the garden but must be returned to the shed in a clean and working order.

Green Waste

There are bays for both communal and plot holder waste - please follow the signs.

Do not compost nut grass or rotting fruit/veges, dispose of it in the green bins provided by the Council or take them home.

Raised Gardens are available for members with disabilities at a square meterage charge.



CONTACT DETAILS

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Members receive notifications and Meeting Reports via email, please ensure the Membership Secretary has your up to date details.

Documents you should be aware of:

Members Information Booklet (this document)

Plotholders Guidelines (once you have a plot)

Governance Document (our Constitution).

Please ensure you read and understand each of these documents and be sure to raise any questions at the monthly meeting.