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# Rotherham Allotment Alliance Ltd

## Environmental Policy

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## Introduction

The Rotherham Allotment Alliance aims to play an important role in promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles within the local community. Access to healthy food produced locally using environmentally friendly methods can be beneficial to the health of individuals, the community and the environment.

The RAA, as part of the Allotment Movement, is improving the quality of life and the local environment. In order to minimise our impact upon the local environment, RAA promotes the following:

### 1. Water/Hoses

- 1.1. Allotment Tenants are encouraged to practice sensible water conservation, utilise covered water butts on sheds and other buildings and consider mulching as a water conservation practice.
- 1.2. Allotment Tenants will give consideration at all times for other tenants when extracting water from water points. No hoses are to be used at any time for irrigation purposes, hoses can be used to fill water butts.

### 2. Fires

- 2.1. Fires are allowed for the burning of materials from the Allotment Garden only i.e. diseased plants and dried-out organic material that will burn without smoke or hazardous residue.
- 2.2. All fires must be attended at all times and not cause a nuisance to neighbouring residential residents or other plot holders. All fires must be fully extinguished before leaving the site.
- 2.3. The Tenant shall not bring or allow to be brought on to the Allotment Site any materials for the purpose of burning such waste.
- 2.4. **Every effort should be made to compost garden waste and remove other material from site. Burning should be the last resort.**

### 3. Chemicals, Pests, Diseases

- 3.1. Only commercially available products from garden or horticultural suppliers shall be used for the control of pests, diseases or vegetation.
- 3.2. When using any sprays or fertilisers the Tenant must take all reasonable care to ensure that adjoining hedges, trees and crops are not adversely affected and must make good or replant as necessary should any damage occur, and so far as possible select and use chemicals, whether for spraying, seed dressing or for any other purpose whatsoever, that will cause the least harm to members of the public, game birds and other wildlife, other than vermin or



pests, and comply at all times with current regulations on the use of such sprays and fertiliser.

3.3. The use and storage of chemicals must be in compliance with the all relevant legislation.

## **4. Vermin**

4.1. Tenants must maintain a vermin free environment at all times. Plot holder with livestock must be extra vigilant at all times to prevent vermin infestation.

4.2. Any vermin infestation should be reported to RAA.

## **5. General**

5.1. Allotment holders are encouraged to re-use and recycling, wherever possible.

5.2. Vegetable waste should be composted.

5.3. Allotment Tenants shall not deposit or allow other persons to deposit on the allotment site any rubbish or refuse.

5.4. All non-compostable waste shall be removed from the Allotment Site by the Tenant.

5.5. The Tenant shall not utilise carpets or underlay on the Allotment Garden.