

Health & Safety Policy

East Barnet Allotments and Gardens Association, Cat Hill

Introduction

All activities carry an element of risk and allotment gardening is no exception. Good gardening is safe gardening and many risks to both ourselves and others can be easily minimized or even prevented.

Our Obligations

Under civil law and as set out in the Occupier's Liability Act 1957 & 1984, all plot-holders have a duty of care to anyone accessing their plot and the pathways for which they are responsible. This includes both authorized and unauthorized visitors. They are also responsible for their own safe working and ensuring that their plot is a safe working environment. As an Association, we have a communal duty to ensure that common areas are as safe as it is reasonably possible. The law requires that we exercise at least a 'reasonable' level of care regarding safety on our Site. We are also obliged to comply with other laws, such as those regarding environmental and wildlife protection.

Our Policy

Our Health & Safety Policy, although summarized in this document, is implemented through our Constitution and Letting Agreement, email communications, notices, website and introduction to the site by the Lettings Officer.

It is the aim of East Barnet Allotments and Gardens Association, Cat Hill to promote the highest standards of health, safety and welfare for members of the Association and visitors to our site. We aim:

- To provide adequate control of the Health & Safety risks arising from all activities on our site.
- To provide and maintain safe equipment and systems of work.
- To ensure the safe handling and use of all substances used in connection with our activities.
- To provide sufficient information to ensure the competency of all members to safely carry out any activities on behalf of the Association.
- To advise on safe use and provide personal protective equipment for use with our machinery.
- To ensure the provision of adequate first-aid equipment.
- To ensure hazards, which may exist in connection with our activities, are identified and minimized through risk assessments undertaken during site and plot inspections. Where hazards remain, they will be brought to the attention of the person who may be exposed to that risk.

- To update this policy and the Health and Safety Guidelines on a regular basis and when necessary.