

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ARKWRIGHT MEADOWS COMMUNITY GARDENS



Environmental policy 2026

AMCG is committed to the safeguarding and sustainability of the environment. To this end we strive to minimise our carbon footprint, have a positive impact on the environment and reduce any negative impact that the Gardens activities may have on the environment.

AMCG is also committed to educating, and supporting users of the Gardens and the local community in environment sustainability and ways in which to safeguard the environment at the Gardens Events and activities

Detailed below are the environmental action points to which AMCG's commits itself.

Organic gardening

1. AMCG will grow produce in the garden using organic and traditional techniques.
2. AMCG will not use chemical or artificial fertilizers, nor will it use pesticides or weed killers.
3. The project will save and recycle seeds yearly where possible.
4. AMCG will promote organic and traditional method gardening techniques amongst visitors to the Gardens.
5. All cleaning materials will be eco friendly brands and shall be used in conjunction with the kitchen and cleaning facilities.
6. We will use liquid refill products to reduce waste where possible.
7. The disposal of hazardous substances and any chemicals used will be done in a safe and harmless way, with the aim of reducing any negative impact on the environment.

Biodiversity

1. AMCG seek to increase the biodiversity of the Gardens.
2. The project will plant a varied range of species, always sowing and planting with attracting wildlife in mind
3. The project has a wildlife pond, fruit trees and areas purposefully left to grow wild to help attract wildlife to the Gardens.
4. AMCG seeks to preserve and protect fruit trees and bushes planted on the garden as part of its Wildlife heritage.

Building materials

1. AMCG will use recycled building materials where possible.
2. AMCG will incorporate materials and components which can be reclaimed in the future e.g. use structural timber rather than reinforced concrete.
3. Use materials which minimise rather than increase travelled miles.
4. Use care and thought into reducing the environmental impact of any construction on the Gardens, through its construction and future maintenance.

Composting / recycling

1. Waste products will be recycled using separate bins on site. e.g. plastics, paper and card, metal and glass.
2. The project will seek to compost as much green waste as possible and to reuse it, back into the soil on site. Any diseased or invasive weeds will be burnt on site and the ash used as an ameliorant on the site.
3. AMCG will offer green composting facilities to people in the Meadows.
4. Rainwater will be collected where possible and used on the Gardens.
5. The Gardens will, where possible, reduce, reuse, re-cycle products.
6. AMCG will support existing recycling provision within The Meadows area.

Power

1. Where possible AMCG will generate power through sustainable sources for use on the Gardens.
2. All facilities on the gardens will use energy reducing light bulbs.
3. All heaters, lights and office equipment will be turned off when not in use.
4. No equipment will be left on standby.
5. Timers and thermostats will be used to control the Gardens office heating.
6. AMCG will support all energy reducing campaigns within the community.

Non-Gardening activities

1. AMCG will buy recycled and environmentally friendly paper stationery and equipment.
2. AMCG will wherever possible purchase items that it can re use rather than creating nonbiodegradable waste, e.g. use ceramic plates and cups.
3. AMCG will re use paper, use paper free communications, and encourage sharing of non-paper communications where possible.
4. AMCG will consider the carbon footprint and environmental practices of business when employing or commissioning services for the Gardens.
5. AMCG will print newsletters, membership cards and letters on recycled paper.
6. AMCG will encourage staff, volunteers, members and users of the Gardens to walk, cycle, travel by public transport or use shared cars when participating in AMCG's activities. Information and partnership work will reflect these good practices also.
7. AMCG will encourage residents to buy the Gardens produce, marketed with the message facts that the food will have no miles attached natural growing environments and of low cost.
8. AMCG will provide cycle parking facilities on the Gardens.
9. Take part in Nottingham wide campaigns to support and raise awareness of local food and sustainable living.