

# Membership of Fern Avenue Community Garden

(managed by *Alternative 3 Incorporated*)

If you wish to become a plot holder at the Fern Avenue Community Garden, an Expression of Interest form must be submitted to the Management Committee of Alternative 3. The Expression of Interest form is available on-line at [www.fernavenuegarden.com](http://www.fernavenuegarden.com) or it can be obtained by sending an email to [Chairfernavegarden@gmail.com](mailto:Chairfernavegarden@gmail.com).

Please note that a waiting list exists for membership of the Garden.

If you are allocated a plot, you will be required to sign a Membership Agreement. The Membership Agreement will be provided to you at the time you are allocated a plot.

The Membership Agreement must be submitted in person to the Chair of the Management Committee (or a representative of the Chair). A tour of the garden will be offered when this form is submitted.

## **The aims of the Fern Avenue Community are:**

- organic horticulture
- promotion of sustainable practices
- education programs
- community access
- support for people with disadvantage
- preservation of the heritage of the site

Members of the Fern Avenue Community Garden may enjoy the benefits of the garden and may use the garden tools provided, as well as the pizza oven, stove and the barbeque

To maintain the aims of Alternative 3 Inc, all Members of the garden must adhere to several membership conditions. When offered a plot, applicants for membership must sign a form accepting these conditions (outlined below). Failure to adhere to the terms of the agreement may mean that membership of Alternative 3 Inc. is terminated.

## **Conditions that apply to all members of Alternative 3 Inc.:**

1. An understanding that the Fern Avenue Community Garden follows organic gardening principles that apply to Member's use of the garden. This includes not using chemical pesticides, fungicides or fertilisers (powders, sprays, liquids or granules) that are not certified for organic use by a recognised certifier such as BFA or OFA. *Note that in the event of a fruit fly infestation, or the like, the garden is subject to government regulations.*
2. An understanding that successful applicants will automatically become a Member of Alternative 3 Inc. There is a standing invitation for all Members to attend Management Committee meetings. As a courtesy, please inform the Chairperson or their delegate. Minutes of Management Committee meetings are distributed to all Members of Alternative 3 in the SBH and posted on the *Members* section of the website.
3. Agreement to pay the plot fee as determined by Alternative 3 Inc. This is payable in advance for a 6-month lease period. Current fees are \$30 per plot.

Members who experience financial hardship may ask for a concession of 50% of fees. This can be done in writing to the Management Committee or through a conversation with the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of the Management Committee.

4. An understanding that produce from the communal areas of the garden (orchards, herbs and artichoke gardens) is the property of, and under the control of, the Management Committee. Members may harvest only moderate quantities of fruit, nuts and herbs from the garden for personal use.
5. Agreement to attend at least one working bee every two months unless an alternative agreement has been made with the Management Committee. This usually involves taking on another task in the 2-monthly period.
6. Acceptance that all vegetables grown on the allocated plot are for the use of family members and must not be offered for sale to others.
7. Permission must be obtained from the Management Committee before planting trees or any large shrubs.
8. Agreement to minimise water usage in gardening practices, using water conservation techniques whenever possible. Members agree to share any costs incurred by Alternative 3 Inc for water used in excess of the annual 500 kilolitres of water supplied by Unley Council.
9. Making full use of the plot allocated to the Member. The plot must be kept in a productive state and surrounding paths kept tidy.
10. Members must observe the provisions made for separate recycling of paper, cardboard, plastic, glass and green organic material.

If, after reading this information, you would like to become a Member of Alternative 3, please submit an Expression of Interest form as outlined in the first paragraph of this document.