



Sun Safety Policy

Stony Brook University Community Garden Club

Rationale: Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation in sunlight causes nearly all skin cancer cases. The risk for skin cancer can be greatly reduced when certain precautions are practiced. Therefore, the Community Garden Club at Stony Brook University is committed to promoting sun safe practices to its members and fellow students and will implement the following sun safety policy:

Policy:

Stony Brook University (SBU) Community Garden Club will promote sun safety to garden members, fellow students, and the campus community by:

- Supporting basic personal strategies to prevent skin cancer including:
 - Applying SPF 15+, broad spectrum sunscreen before going outdoors, and reapplying every two hours.
 - Wearing a wide-brimmed hat, UV sunglasses, and long-sleeved clothing (weather permitting).
 - Seeking shade when feasible, especially between the hours of 10am to 4pm.
- Making free sunscreen (SPF 15+, broad-spectrum) available to garden members and fellow students attending garden programs and events for use at the garden.
- Encouraging garden members and fellow students attending garden programs and events to wear sun-protective clothing and equipment such as wide-brimmed hats, UV protective sunglasses or prescription glasses, and long-sleeved clothing, weather permitting.
- Providing a free pair of UV sunglasses, wide-brimmed hat, and sleeved shirt to garden members once per academic semester.
- Considering the availability of shade when planning special events, especially those scheduled between the hours of 10am-4pm.
- Making shade available to garden members, as feasible. Shade shall not interfere with sun exposure of garden plants. Shade may not be available on days with unsuitable weather

conditions, and during university breaks when shade cannot be properly monitored by garden e-board members.

- Reassessing shade needs each academic semester or as needed to determine if and where additional shade is needed to reduce UV exposure for gardeners. Additional shade to be provided as club funds allow, at the determination of garden leadership/e-board members.
- Scheduling garden programs and events occurring between March and October before 10am or after 4pm, when possible and as conducive to the schedules of garden members and fellow students. Does not apply to programs and events between October and March, or regular gardening.
- Incorporating sun safety education into garden programs and events as appropriate.
- Providing education opportunities to garden members and fellow students on the dangers of UV exposure from the sun, skin cancer prevention strategies, and tips for sun safe gardening.
- Making additional educational materials on skin cancer prevention and sun safety available to garden members upon request.
- Promoting sun safety to garden members, visitors, and campus community through on-site communications such as signage, verbal announcements, or flyers/handouts at garden meetings, programs, and events; and social media posts.
- Promoting sun safety to garden members, visitors, and campus community through online communications such as social media, website, or email communications.
- Ensuring that upon transition to new garden e-board, new e-board members will be oriented to this policy by their predecessors and receive education on skin cancer prevention and sun safety.
- Modeling positive sun safe behaviors throughout the campus community, and supporting efforts to extend sun safety strategies and policies across the university, at the discretion of garden e-board.

Policy Monitoring and Review: SBU Community Garden Club e-board will evaluate and revise this policy each academic semester, or upon leadership/e-board transition, and as needed.

Contact Regarding Policy: Contact club president or vice president with questions or concerns about the policy.

Date Policy Adopted: 3/16/2024

Date Policy Updated: N/A