



GLASGOW ALLOTMENTS

SUSTAINABLE ALLOTMENT SITE AWARDS

Site Name -:

Year of Entry -:

Most of us agree that there are huge economic, social and environmental challenges facing us all. Allotment associations are becoming more aware of the responsibility plot-holders have to care for the environment, other members of their site and the wider community. The Sustainability Allotment Site Award (SASA) was first delivered in 2013 as a joint project organised by Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Allotment Forum. The aim of the SASA is to show how allotment sites are becoming more sustainable while still preserving their unique character.

The definition of sustainability used in this award scheme: "Using resources in such a way that none are depleted for future use. Our soil, water, environment, materials, ploholders and the wider community are all valuable resources."

The concept of stewardship for the earth, the plot-holders and the local community is at the core of these awards. There are four levels Bronze, Silver, Gold or Green, Sites can decide which level they have reached in each category and any plans to work towards the next level.

The areas are:

1. SUSTAINING THE PLOT - caring for the earth

- (i) Recycling and water conservation
- (ii) Good standards of cultivation
- (iii) Encouraging beneficial wildlife

2. SUSTAINING THE PLOT-HOLDERS - looking after and co-operating with each other

- (i) Inclusion
- (ii) Communication
- (iii) Community activities

3. SUSTAINING THE WIDER COMMUNITY - sharing with local people

- (i) Open days:
- (ii) Community engagement
- (iii) Outreach participation in local community

We realise that every site is different, so in the first instance site associations are asked to appraise themselves and their own practice. It is suggested that allotment association secretaries liaise with their committees in completing the attached self-appraisal sheet and rating the present state of their sites. The appraisals should be based on a mixture of the collective effort and on an estimate of the number of plot-holders who show good practice. The allotment sites will be divided into five hub areas and informal visits will be organised between sites in the hub areas to discuss the appraisals. The sustainability team, consisting of GAF members, will collate the appraisals and agree the awards with Glasgow City Council Sustainable Cities (Food) Officer.

SASA Application Notes

SASA recognises that the plot, plot-holder and the wider community all contribute to the sustainability of an allotment site and that all three aspects are interdependent. It is for this reason that each allotment site is asked to appraise all three different aspects of allotment life:

1. Sustaining the Plot – Caring for the Earth

Caring for the soil, the plot and the site in general is about keeping the earth in good condition, avoiding waste of natural resources, recycling materials where practical and creating conditions that encourage the 'good' bugs and wildlife to thrive.

2. Sustaining the Plot-holder – Looking After and Co-operating with Each Other

Sustaining the plotholders is all about supporting them to grow great produce, be good neighbours, enjoy being part of their site and, because of this, introduce others to allotments as the next generation of plotholders.

3. Sustaining the Community – Sharing with Local People

Engaging people in the community who live locally, local schools and other organisations; we seek support for allotments as a real asset for everyone and not just a 'club' for the few.

The process of self-appraisal is simple. Each allotment site should think about their activities, rules and practices in order to identify everything that helps to sustain the resources of the site. **An Information Guide to "Sustainable Site Practices"** is available on the sustainability pages of the Forum website www.glasgowallotmentsforum.org.uk.

Ratings

Each allotment site rates their achievements in terms of sustainability on a scale of one to five, where one is the minimum and five is excellent. There are 45 marks in total (15 for each section). These ratings will result in the award of one of four plaques:

Bronze:	10-19
Silver:	20-29
Gold:	30-39
Green:	40+

Application Form

An application form (attached) is also available on the SASA website (www.glasgowallotmentsforum.org.uk). Please submit your form no later than 16th July 2016

1. SUSTAINING THE PLOT - Caring for the Earth

(i) Recycling and water conservation

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(ii) Good standards of cultivation

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(iii) Encouraging beneficial wildlife

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

2. SUSTAINING THE PLOT-HOLDER - Looking After and Co-operating with Each Other

(i) Inclusion

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(ii) Communication

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(iii) Community activities

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

3. SUSTAINING THE WIDER COMMUNITY – Sharing with Local People

(i) Open days

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(ii) Community engagement beyond open days

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

(iii) Outreach participation in local community

What is done already?

Any new activity you wish to highlight in this area?

What could be done?

Self-assessment mark out of five

Please Return to:

By Email admin@glasgowallotmentsforum.org.uk

By Post: **Alister Smith**
59 Rockall Drive
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Name and contact details of person submitting this form:

Please note that all entries will receive an acknowledgement. Please contact us if you hear nothing back.