

AVCG Guidelines for Structures and Storage

Emphasis for all structures and storage issues must be given to safety for gardeners through the elimination of sharp edges, protruding points, shoddy construction, and trip hazards. Walkways must be unobstructed and neighbor's rightful space should not be compromised by adjoining member's garden materials. Adherence to these guidelines is one component of monthly garden inspections. Improperly constructed structures are subject to removal. Existing structures will be inspected annually for good repair and compliance with these guidelines as a condition of membership renewal.

I. Structures:

A.) **Frames** are defined as three or four vertical posts with overhead structural support and/or overhead covering materials. These must meet these criteria:

- 1) be well-constructed of the same materials throughout and no higher than six feet
- 2) all structural pieces secured and can be easily disassembled and disposed of
- 3) all overhead pieces must be light weight, uniform material and not unsightly
- 4) nothing can be stored overhead
- 5) the structure must not intrude on neighboring gardens or aisles by overgrowth or shading from either the structure or plants growing on it

B.) **Raised garden beds:**

- 1) must be well-constructed of the same materials throughout
- 2) planks need to be bolted together with secured corners and be easily disassembled for disposal

C.) **Garden Plot Edging:**

- 1) must be well-constructed of the same materials throughout and be no higher than ten inches
- 2) edging timbers must be well-secured with non-protruding stakes, bolts or screws
- 3) edging must be easily disassembled for disposal

D.) **Trellises** are defined as two or more stakes forming a straight line. Trellises must meet these criteria:

- 1) be well-constructed of the same materials throughout
- 2) be installed with no unprotected or protruding sharp points or wires
- 3) must be movable, easily disassembled and disposed of
- 4) constructed no higher than six feet
- 5) must not intrude on neighboring gardens with overgrowth or shading

II. Storage within members' plots:

- 1) Non-plant material storage must be minimal and appropriate for a garden.
- 2) Stored materials must be neatly confined to one area of the plot.
- 3) Small stored items must be contained in no more than two covered tote boxes or trash cans. These containers should be in good condition.
- 4) Toxic or hazardous materials are never to be stored in the garden.
- 5) Improper storage of materials can be noted at any time and also will be noted during the garden inspections.