

SCBG Steering Committee final revised insecticide and herbicide use policy, approved by email correspondence, September 1, 2021

**Rationale:**

Native plants and insects evolve together in an ecosystem. We can encourage health and minimize insect problems by creating a wide range of plant species and by providing them with appropriate soil and water conditions. In the majority of cases, low-input, low-tech practices that are nontoxic to animals and non-target species are the methods of choice. If public health or the health of native plants in the garden are endangered, stronger interventions may be discussed.

**Policy:**

Recognizing that even organic nontoxic compounds (e.g. garlic and soap sprays) can endanger native bees and other life, Silva Creek Botanical Garden staff and volunteers will use minimally invasive, nontoxic, observation-based insect and weed control practices at SCBG. Appropriate methods will be determined case by case by the Steering Committee.