

BYLAWS
[STATE FEDERATION]
GARDENING CONSULTANTS COUNCIL

ARTICLE I Name and Affiliation -

Sec. 1 The name of this organization shall be [INSERT IDENTIFYING NAME] Gardening Consultants Council (Council).

Sec. 2 The Council is formed within the framework of [STATE FEDERATION] and is a subsidiary of that body.

ARTICLE II Objectives - The objectives of this organization shall be (1) to stimulate interest in horticulture; (2) to assist garden clubs by presenting programs and/or workshops that promote gardening and horticulture excellence; and (3) to support programs and projects of [STATE FEDERATION] by providing information about gardening and horticulture techniques.

ARTICLE III Membership

Sec. 1 (a) Members shall be Consultants currently accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) and be currently paid members of [STATE FEDERATION].

(b) Members shall be Provisional Consultants as currently recognized by NGC and be currently paid members of [STATE FEDERATION].

(c) Membership in the Council will terminate six (6) months after expiration of Consultant's Certificate, unless special extension of Certificate is granted by NGC.

(d) Each member shall pay dues per each [STATE FEDERATION] President's 2-year term, payable by May 31, and sent to the Council Treasurer. The dues amount will be listed in the Standing Rules.

Sec. 2 The fiscal year shall be June 1 to May 31.

ARTICLE IV Officers and their Duties

Sec. 1 The officers of this organization shall be a Chairman, appointed by the [STATE FEDERATION] President; an Assistant Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer; and the [STATE FEDERATION] Gardening Study Schools Chairman. These officers shall comprise the Executive Committee of the Council.

Sec. 2 The Council Chairman shall preside at Council and Executive Committee Meetings; shall have a newsletter prepared and sent to all Council members; and shall represent the Council on the [STATE FEDERATION] Board of Directors.

Sec. 3 The Assistant Chairman shall aid the Chairman, shall preside in the Chairman's absence, and shall keep a current list of paid membership with a copy for the Council Chairman.

Sec. 4 The Secretary shall keep the minutes of Council meetings.

Sec. 5 The Treasurer shall collect and record dues; shall receive and authorize receipts for payment of Council bills; and shall prepare financial reports in advance of the [STATE FEDERATION] Board meetings; and shall prepare a year-end report for publication in the newsletter.

ARTICLE V Election of Officers

Elections shall be held at or near the time of the [STATE FEDERATION] Convention in the odd-numbered years. Terms shall be for two years. Vacancies shall be filled by action of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI Meetings and Quorums

Sec. 1 Meetings of the Council shall be held at least once annually at the [STATE FEDERATION] Convention, and may be held at a [STATE FEDERATION] Fall and/or Winter Board Meeting.

Sec. 2 A quorum for the conducting of business at regular meetings shall be a majority of active members present and eligible to vote.

Sec. 3 A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be three members. Business may be conducted by correspondence, telephone, and/or e-mail when meetings are not convenient.

ARTICLE VII Dissolution - Upon dissolution of the Council, the assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be distributed to [STATE FEDERATION] in accordance with section 501(c)3 IRS guidelines.

ARTICLE VIII Amendments - These bylaws may be amended by two-thirds majority of members present at a [STATE FEDERATION] Convention Meeting, providing written notice has been given to all Council members at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE IX Parliamentary Authority - The most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall be the accepted parliamentary authority for governing the Council in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order that the organization may adopt.

STANDING RULES

Dues shall be \$[ENTER AMOUNT] per member per two-year administrative term effective [DATE].

The newsletter shall contain excerpts and summaries of workshops and other activities of Consultants; horticulture information and any other pertinent information of interest to Consultants.

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Council to send the Council Newsletter to every [STATE FEDERATION] Consultant in good standing whether or not the Consultant is a paid member of this Council, and to designated [STATE FEDERATION], [Region], and NGC Chairmen.