

NO-MOW ZONE/ GARDEN SAFETY CONTRACT:

The no-mow zones are designated areas at CHS that progress through ecological succession to return to a natural state. The no-mow zones have many important benefits including: a real-world 'science laboratory' for science students to study ecological/biological concepts, shelter for wildlife and pollinators, soil stabilization, fiscal savings due to less mowing and less fuel consumption, as well as lowering CHS' Carbon footprint! These are just a few of the benefits that these areas afford our staff and students. However, this area is inherently nature-oriented, so there are certain precautions all students and staff members must take to be safe during activities outside.

Please read over the following information prior to using the no-mow zones:

1. Dressing appropriately for outdoor experiences is important! CASD *strongly suggests* that students wear closed toed shoes, long pants, and long sleeve shirts for protection. Additionally, gloves and goggles (PPE) are available for students to wear in the no-mow zones.
2. There is a possibility of exposure to bees, wasps, poison ivy, fungus, and/or other allergens. Students with allergies must inform the teacher prior to participating in activities in the no-mow zone area.
3. Students who normally carry an Epi-Pen should bring it outside in case of a sting/allergic reaction.
4. Students should not attempt to capture, chase, and/or pet any wildlife you may see. This area is not to be used for hands-on wildlife research.
5. Students must follow all teacher directives at all times.
6. It is imperative that students are paying attention to their surroundings *at all times*

Lastly, we have a responsibility to CASD, to CHS, and to the environment, to protect the no-mow zone and use it for its intended scientific purposes. You will leave the wildlife in the same manner as to which it was found. Many plants and animals consider these areas their home and we, as caretakers, must respect them.

*The same protocols mentioned above should be followed if working in the pollinator gardens.

COVID Information Disclaimer: Masks may be required during outdoor activities throughout the school year.

Masking will be dependent on CASD, Department of Health and CDC guidelines. These are subject to change as COVID numbers and conditions change. Teachers will alert students to these changes in guidelines prior to participating in these activities.

After reading this document, you must read and complete the form listed in PowerSchool. By completing the PowerSchool form, you attest to the fact that you have read and understand the important information and required protocols regarding the no-mow zone. I understand the precautions outlined by this contract.