

## Vision

Our Workshop is a place that is safe, effective and easy to use. It is shared by the CoHo community. It provides a place to further our community and personal projects. We understand and take steps to reduce the risk of having a CoHo shop.

## Goals

- Minimize the number and severity of injuries.
- Minimize financial liability/cost.
- Balance effort vs. effectiveness in achieving goals above.

## Needs/Requests

- **Community, connection.** Our Workshop facilitates connection between us when we work together and when we work on community projects.
- **Safety.** We feel safe when we work in the Workshop and when others are working in the Workshop.
- **Clarity, consideration.** We understand how to use the tools safely and we understand what is expected of us when we use the Workshop.
- **Ease, harmony, order, beauty, efficacy, spontaneity.** It is easy to follow the procedures for using our Workshop. We maintain our Workshop organization and cleanliness so that it is easy to find, use and maintain our tools.
- **Love.** We love our Workshop, our tools and our hardware. We love our Cohoots and we want them all to be safe. We feel loved when our Workshop is cared for.

## Vision and Values

Our Workshop Policy supports our community Vision and Values of:

- **Vision.** CoHo is a **cohousing community** that is designed to encourage interactions between people and enrich our lives with the pleasure of **cooperation** and **friendship**.
- **Sharing Our Lives.** ... Coho is a community in which we share work...
- **Safety and Trust.** A feeling of safety and trust is a key component of community. We foster this element within our community by respecting each other's' beliefs, accepting each other as individuals, and communicating openly and honestly...
- **Environmental Consciousness.** ...We recycle, reuse, and share resources whenever possible.
- **Balancing Community and Privacy.** ...We have shared spaces, such as the common house...

## Facts

- Access to the Workshop is limited with locks and a keypad.
- A workshop is an inherently dangerous place where accidents and injuries can occur.
- Lawsuits can happen when accidents occur.

- CoHo's insurance policy covers the Workshop.
- Our insurance rates will increase if there is an insurance claim.
- The shop team has consulted an attorney to get a better understanding of liability and risk.

## **Assumptions**

- Training and maintenance will reduce the number and severity of injuries.
- Shop users will assume all responsibilities as identified in the CoHo Shop Use Agreement.

## **Policy**

- The CoHo Workshop is for use by Owners, Renters and Associate Members.
- All shop users must sign a "CoHo Shop Use Agreement" before they may enter the shop or use shop equipment.
- The CoHo Workshop may be used by other individuals under the supervision of a CoHo Owner provided the CoHo Owner and other individuals have signed the CoHo shop agreement. It is the CoHo Owner's responsibility to evaluate the risk and potential impact on the community associated with allowing this other individual to use the CoHo Workshop.
- When using any of the following tools: table saw, miter or sliding saw, bandsaw, circular saw, drill press, jointer, planer, grinders and any other high risk power tools it is the responsibility of the user to have adequate training.
- The Shop Team makes an effort to maintain the shop tools but cannot guarantee that all maintenance issues are caught promptly. Users must be alert for any required maintenance or unsafe conditions.
- All users must abide by all maintenance and safety procedures.
- All users must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (per training) when in the shop.
- Children under the age of 18 in the shop must be under direct adult supervision at all times, must have a Shop Use Agreement signed by a parent and must have adequate training on all equipment used.
- Shop users shall report any unsafe shop conditions to the Shop Team.

## **Related Documents**

CoHo Shop Agreement

## **Revision History**

This policy was created and initially approved November 17, 2013.

The policy was updated and approved by the community on December 15, 2019.