

# Barley Jar Quick Orientation Guide!!!

Welcome to the Barley Jar!!! (Also known as Punswick house) We're so happy to have you stay with us and explore living intentionally and sustainably in community. This welcome guide provides you with some basic information about our traditions and where to find the answers to questions you may have. Should you have any questions or concerns, and aren't sure who to speak to, our House Coordinator Fairy is the one to go to! You can check the fridge for our list of Fairies and see who is the current House Coordinator. The other major resource is our 528 Brunswick Book of House Traditions brown binder on the bookshelf in the living room. Please make sure to read it while you settle in! It describes our intentions and traditions and provides house reference lists in more detail...Our house aspiration is permaculture in the broadest sense! The House intentions/traditions include: shared friendship/community, art, music and social/environmental activism, sharing local/organic foods, sustainable materials (plastic free), sustainable transportation (bikes, transit/no cars), supporting diversity and inclusion (socio economic, gender/orientation, spiritual etc.)

## General

- heating is on a schedule so best to leave the thermostat on its pre-programmed schedule. If you find yourself chilly, there are space heaters in the sun room upstairs, and extra blankets can be found in the sun room or temporarily adjust the thermostat.
- We have internet and a house phone (in living room or in Tomislav's room)
- Important (internet, phone) codes and such are in the House Traditions binder
- The list of housemate telephone numbers is on the fridge!
- We don't usually lock our doors but in the event that no one is home and you'd like to leave, lock the doors around the house and then lock the front door with the spare key (ask where) and return the spare key to its place for the first person who gets home.
- We have hooks in the hallway with each of our names on it. If you are a shorter term guest, feel free to put your coat on the 'Friends' hook.
- We try and have each person keep only 2 pairs of shoes in the front hallway.
- Guests are welcome! If you're planning to have guests over for dinner on a night that is not your cooking night, check in with the chef and see if it's okay. Perhaps you and your guests can contribute something to that meal, be it food, prep, or clean up help.
- Quiet time in the house is from 11pm-9am
- Remember to keep the common areas tidy and plastic free! Deck, sun room, living room, dining room, kitchen and bathrooms and outside grounds.
- The Barley Jar chores are all done by our team of Fairies!! Our Fairies are secretive beings who live at our house who do all our chores. If you wish to be a fairy or help the Fairies talk to the chore coordinator. The fairy assignments are on the fridge!
- If you want a treat - you may find such an item or baked good (made by the treat fairy!) in a jar or on the counter

## Laundry

- Soap is next to the washing machines in the sun room and kitchen. We have solar laundry dryers! These are laundry racks or the lines either in the backyard or on the deck. Try to take down your dried laundry as quickly as possible because these lines and racks are coveted! And to be mindful of the space, it's nice to have clothespins removed, areas tidy and clean if possible

- Load soap (all clothes)/borax (colours) or washing soda (whites) into the far left compartment of the soap container prior to starting the washing machine
- Start a load of laundry no later than 10pm since they can be really loud- and quiet time starts at 11pm. Even a bit earlier is better...
- There is an ironing board in Tomislav's room and an iron either in his room or in the upstairs bathroom

## Kitchen

- It's important to wash your dishes as soon as possible or to load them into the dishwasher. If the dishwasher is full and you opened it, it's your turn to unload and put away the dishes! If you're in a real hurry, then just wash your dish(es) and put them away. If you're in a BIG hurry, then feel free to label your dishes with your dishes clothespin (each person has a clothespin with their name on it) and put it to the right of the sink for up to 24 hours.
- \* When the dishwasher is full and properly loaded (directions and diagrams in Brunswick binder in the back pocket), the soap is under the sink. There are 2 different powders that are both used in a 2:1 ratio for the dishwasher. Ask if you have questions about this!
- The garbage is under the sink on the left. The compost is under the sink on the right. Recycling is in a basket on the floor, nestled in between the door to the backyard and the breakfast/baking/spices/bread unit.
- When using the pots and pans, please scrub them with scrubbies (non-metal if cast iron) with hot water (maybe a bit of soap) directly after use, dry and put away
- Don't leave anything to air dry, either put away or put in dishwasher (items can dry where they are stored)
- As our name suggests we have lots of jars!! Our jar fairy delabels and keeps a fresh sparkling supply of dry lidded jars in the second drawer to the right of the sink
- Jars need to be washed out inside with grey water before entering the dishwasher

## Groceries

Unless items are labelled otherwise, we share all food in common areas. Shopping is usually done at Karma Coop or the Farmers Market. We aim to consume local and organic food. The shopping list is a chalkboard on the kitchen wall. We have 2 food getting fairies-who bring the items on that wish list to our kitchen. It's magical! Feel free to go shopping as well.

- There is a Food Getting Fairy and a Helper Food Getting Fairy to ensure we are always well-stocked. But we are all encouraged to help with this tremendous task.
- On the Monday of each week, each person who is eating at the house regularly that coming week, whether you're staying here long term or only for a week, puts \$ into the collective envelope. If you're eating at the house 3 regular sized meals per day, it works out to \$36/week.
- Feel free to contribute food instead of money too. But do make sure that at least half of your weekly contribution is money, or at least food that can be consumed that week. (Meaning, bringing in a huge amount of bulk food is great- but it can't count towards your whole contribution for one week. Perhaps spread out the value of that huge bulk contribution over a few weeks)
- If you have any dietary restrictions or high value items you want to keep for yourself that's okay. Keep it in your room and if it's a fridge/freezer item, label it. Just be mindful that we want a majority of the food in the common fridge to be shared.