
Rules and Karma

Posted by amystew - 2005/09/24 18:10

I was mostly a lurker on the old Worm Digest forum, but now that we're getting off to a new start, I thought maybe this would be a great opportunity to talk about what kinds of guidelines can keep things friendly and helpful. I think the negativity can be a turn-off. I see that there is a section for Rules and no Rules have been posted yet, so I'm guessing they're coming. Ideally, I'd just as soon not have Rules at all in most parts of my life, but I understand why forums create them.

So I thought I would copy and paste some guidelines from another forum I really love, MaryJanesFarm. I'll put them below. Just thought it would be worthy of consideration.

Also, I'm not so sure about the Karma buttons. Do we really have to vote that people are good or bad? There's just something about it that does not sit well with me.

One more thing--many people on the old site were engaged in some kind of commercial enterprise--selling worms and bins and so forth. I really enjoyed hearing about what they were up to and I like knowing about new bins and other products, so I hope that some level of commercial activity will be OK as long as it's not "Spam." I notice that Gardenweb's forums have a very strict no-commercial rule, and I think it gets in the way of people talking about what they're working on and what they're interested in.

Anyway, here are MaryJane's guidelines.

TONE: The weather and general unsettled-ness worldwide seems to be making us all a little cranky sometimes. Here are some reminders to help keep us on track until the heat subsides:

IF.....you want to offer up new ideas, and you've done a search to see if anything on this subject or keyword hasn't already been established, then do so with the utmost respect for all members.

IF.....someone replies to your post and you're not sure how to take it, assume it was meant the best possible way. This will help you feel better about other members and prevent you from firing off angry, sharp or insensitive replies.

IF.....you're still tempted to write something you might regret later, remember this adage: read twice, post once. Better yet, wait a few hours before pressing send. Do you still want to phrase things quite that way?

REMEMBER... we are a cross-section of cultures and a variety of countries represented within this forum. We practice Tolerance here, so Honor one another's differences, be Open-minded about things that may seem foreign to you. If it's not what you're comfortable with, then so be it, and just let it be. Defensiveness gets us no where on the path to progress and the sense of commUNITY that we want to create here.

Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by Kaiser Soze - 2005/09/24 18:26

Amy,

Bravo! I love your suggestion for the rules and I for one think the ones that you chose are very cool. Hopefully, the website will adopt them or something very close to them. Thank you for being so intuitive and expressing your thoughts in the forum.

While I was browsing this morning, I was also thinking about when the rules were going to be implemented. Then, I just saw your post. Awesome!

Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by Jean Valjean - 2005/09/24 18:44

Amy!

I am glad you brought up the Karma Button issue. Right now this specific website is still new yet when others begin to see that it has improved and is continuing to grow the website may attract many new individuals.

With that said, you never know who in the future will visit and have a specific agenda. At the risk of not sounding too paranoid, I was going to suggest eliminating the buttons to the Admin in this forum to head off a possible train wreck in the future.

One malicious person could effect several people and hurt their feelings. The problem I see is that the person who grades other poster's input is not accountable. So, one could be graded a thumbs down and never no why.

I prefer the old fashion way. If you disagree with someone's post, let them know it through a reply.

. . . jusy my two cents.

Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by Jean Valjean - 2005/09/24 18:50

Thanks Amy!

I just notice after reading my post to you that I have been transformed from a Fertile Cocoon to a Hatchling Earthworm. I think it commemorates my tenth post in these forums. Thank you for assisting through my life cycle. ;)

Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by foobar - 2005/09/24 19:07

Hello amystew,

These guys who put this forum together really know what they were doing. I noticed they not only have a separate discussion forum for business products and machinery but when you click on the Latest News link under the Main Menu they have a link for latest news in Business and Agriculture.

I think this should keep all of us well informed regarding the private business sector. I like it because you can reference the forum and news section quickly without having to go through all the other buried topics.

So far from what I see it appears that this website promotes free enterprise and it seems that they are keeping all the different subject topics separate so that it is organized.

They must be working on alot of things. When I clicked on FAQ's about Worm Digest under the Main Menu I did not see anything. I suspect we all will see a Mission Statement among others things in the near future.

I also like your suggested forum rules.

Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by admin - 2005/09/24 23:03

amystew -

Your wish is my command!

There are now no more Karma buttons in any of the forums. . .

Don't believe the nasty rumors that Scooter posts about me. I really don't live out in the back shed and eat raw meat. I prefer to call my dwelling a humble abode and I like steak tartare.

- The Stig

P.S.

I love the ladies even when they are fire breathing purple dragons with wings like me and I loved your book.

Post edited by: admin, at: 2005/09/25 10:50

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Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by bingoes - 2005/09/27 22:54

Right on!
in the past i've found myself kicking myself for a week after replying too quickly to a post.
can't wait to see the new products gearing up on the site!
-bingoes

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Re:Rules and Karma

Posted by Maureen - 2005/10/08 01:16

Hi Amy,
The MaryJane rules sound good. I think we should talk about commercial projects too.
I must admit I do not even know what the karma thing is & it took me long enough just to login.
Will be checking in!
Maureen