

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services

GreySheet Distribution and Disclaimer

Amends 2013.12 GreySheet Food Plan Required Changes Only as CAL

To more effectively carry the message in the digital age and in our global fellowship, GreySheeters Anonymous World Services (GSAWS) will authorize the electronic distribution of the Conference Approved Literature (CAL) GreySheet in addition to traditional hard-copy distribution. In light of such electronic distribution, to protect the integrity of the GreySheet program, the World Services organization, and our copyright of the GreySheet, GSAWS shall add disclaimer statements to the GreySheet. When adding these statements to the GreySheet, GSAWS shall also add our website address to facilitate compulsive eaters finding GreySheeters Anonymous.

This document describes the text of the disclaimer and how GSAWS shall distribute both the hard and electronic copy of the GreySheet.

GreySheet Disclaimer

Background

In 2013, after five years of negotiations and at the cost of over \$10,000, GSAWS purchased the GreySheet food plan from Overeaters Anonymous and, in 2014, registered the copyright. GSAWS now has the sole right to duplicate, distribute, and alter the GreySheet food plan.

The 2013 World Service Conference adopted the GreySheet as GSA Conference Approved Literature with only those changes either legally required or requested by Overeaters Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous. The 2013 World Service Conference affirmed the commitment to the fellowship made in 1998 when GSA formed, that the GreySheet would not be changed.

Distribution Policy

Since 2014, GreySheeters Anonymous World Services has printed and sold supplies of the hard copy CAL and copyright GreySheet to approved GreySheeters Anonymous intergroups for distribution to registered GreySheeters Anonymous groups, via their GSRs, and to qualified sponsors.

Situation in 2021

The Board of Trustees is very conscious of the commitment to the fellowship to preserve the original GreySheet as much as possible. However,

1. The current version of the GreySheet does not include any information about how to contact GSA.
2. Our intellectual property attorney advises us that the copyright statement should be stronger.

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3. Our attorney recommends that we strengthen our protection from legal liability with a disclaimer and a statement that only a qualified GSA sponsor can provide the complete GreySheet food plan.

These factors become even more pertinent if we distribute the GreySheet electronically.

The GreySheet community has long held that, “The GreySheet comes with a sponsor.” That is, we do not distribute the GreySheet food plan in isolation. We believe that (a) it is impossible to determine exactly what we do and how we do it from reading the GreySheet and (b) without a sponsor, it is just another diet rather than a solution for compulsive eating. We believe that distributing the GreySheet without a sponsor implies that a newcomer can, in fact, solve their food problem with just the grey piece of paper. That is not carrying the message of a solution that works.

Proposed Statement

The resulting statement would include:

This document does not represent the entirety of the GreySheet food plan, which can only be provided by a qualified sponsor with 90 days of back-to-back GreySheet abstinence.

GSA is not responsible for, and expressly disclaims all liability for, damages of any kind arising out of the use, reference to, or reliance on any information contained in this document.

This document is protected by copyright and may not be reproduced, republished, or distributed, in whole or in part, without the express written consent from GSA.

www.greysheet.org

As of August 2021, GreySheeters Anonymous World Services proposes adding the first sentence to the bottom of the first panel. The second and third sentence and the website address would go on Panel 4 (the first item on Panel 4 is Fresh Fruit).

Referring to current GSA GreySheet and the GreySheet with the New Text

The current GreySheeters Anonymous GreySheet, copyright 2014, may be referred to as the first edition. The GreySheet with the disclaimer may be referred to as the second edition. The addition of the disclaimer does not constitute a substantive enough change to the document registered with the US Copyright Office to merit a new copyright. The original 2014 registration covers the second edition. Both the first and second edition would be Conference Approved Literature.

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GreySheet Distribution Policy

Hard Copy GreySheets in English

1. The GreySheet shall be available in hard copy. Other than those members designated by GSAWS to reproduce hard copies of the GreySheet, all persons are prohibited from printing and distributing hard copies of the GreySheet. GreySheeters Anonymous World Services has authorized one Trusted Servant in the USA and the European Intergroup Service Representative to print and distribute the GreySheet in English.
 - a. The authorized agents will print an exact replication of the 2013 Conference Approved Literature GreySheet, for example, the same grey, the same size and weight card stock (or as close as possible), the same fonts, etc.
2. GreySheeters Anonymous World Services sells hard copy GreySheets only to registered GSA intergroups, via their Intergroup Service Representative (“ISR”), or in the alternative, an officer of the intergroup designated by the ISR. ISRs, or their designee, in English-speaking countries outside Europe may obtain hard copies of the GreySheet by emailing their request to foodplan@greysheet.org. Requests shall include the following information:
 - a. The intergroup officer’s position, first and last name, mailing address, phone number, and email address
 - b. The ISR’s first and last name and email address
 - c. The intergroup’s full name
 - d. The number of GreySheets requested
3. Registered GSA groups may purchase GreySheets from their intergroup via a trusted servant who is a qualified GreySheet sponsor. For purposes of this procedure, a GreySheet food sponsor is defined as a member of GSA with 90 days or more of back-to-back GreySheet abstinence. Requests to an intergroup for copies of the GreySheet shall include the following information:
 - a. The trusted servant’s first and last name, mailing address, phone number, and email address and their abstinence date
 - b. The group’s registered name
 - c. The number of GreySheets requested
4. Qualified GSA sponsors with 90 days of back-to-back GreySheet abstinence may obtain hard copies of the GreySheet from their GSR or their ISR. They then provide hard copies

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to newcomers and sponsees with the clarifications¹ written onto those hard copies. A qualified GreySheet food sponsor who is not a member of a registered GSA group may purchase a GreySheet from any intergroup.

5. Every three years, as part of the intergroup registration renewal process, GreySheeters Anonymous World Services will request that ISRs acknowledge that they understand and agree to adhere to this procedure.

Hard Copy GreySheets in Languages Other Than English

1. GSAWS may authorize registered GSA intergroups and groups to print and distribute hard copies of approved translations of the GreySheet.
2. Authorized intergroups may print hard copies of the translated GreySheet and supply these to their member groups and to qualified sponsors.
3. Authorized groups may print and distribute hard copies of translated GreySheets and supply these to qualified sponsors.
4. GSAWS will request that ISRs and GSRs of such authorized intergroups and groups acknowledge that they understand and agree to adhere to this procedure. This acknowledgement will be part of the registration renewal process.

Electronic Copies in English

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services will produce the second edition, create a PDF, and email the PDF to the ISRs of all registered intergroups for distribution in the same way as the hard copy. GreySheeters Anonymous World Services will not publish the GreySheet online.

Electronic Copies in Language Other than English

GreySheeters Anonymous intergroups and groups which wish to translate and distribute electronic copies of the GreySheet in languages other than English, may translate the second edition following the GreySheeters Anonymous World Services Conference Approved Literature Translation procedure. As with the first edition, the second edition should match the English version in appearance.

Electronic Copies of the First Edition

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services suggests that members replace any electronic versions of the first edition with the second edition.

Acknowledgement

The purpose of this written description of how to obtain and distribute our GreySheet is to provide clarity to members, groups, and intergroups who want to follow the collective decision

¹Many of these clarifications are recorded in the 2020 report, *GreySheet Abstinence: Clarifications and Sponsor Guidelines* available to GSA members from GreySheeters Anonymous World Services.

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of the fellowship about the best way to carry the message using the GreySheet.

Copyright

The GreySheet document is the intellectual property of GreySheeters Anonymous World Services which is responsible for protecting the fellowship's exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, and alter the document. To retain ownership of the GreySheet, GreySheeters Anonymous World Services must exercise those rights. If GreySheeters Anonymous World Services fails to control reproduction, distribution, and alterations of the document, the document enters the public domain, that is, it belongs to everyone and no one. Anyone could alter it and distribute it. This would reduce our fellowship's ability to carry the GreySheet message.

If you have an idea for reproducing and distributing the GreySheet, for example, by printing reduced size copies or by printing it on a coffee cup, you must write to GreySheeters Anonymous World Services to request permission.

Changes to this Document

The originating committee and the Board of Trustees may make spelling, grammar, or formatting corrections to this document. The originating committee may make minor content changes to this document for clarity and to ensure it aligns with other GreySheeters Anonymous World Services decisions. The originating committee will follow the World Service Conference approval process for any substantive changes to the content.

Approval Dates

Board of Trustees	5/30/2021
Combination of Electronic Distribution and Disclaimer	6/20/2021
How to Handle Electronic Distribution	7/18/2021
Naming First and Second Editions	8/15/2021
Committee Chairs and Intergroup Service Representatives	7/11/2021
World Service Conference	10/17/2021

For more information

GreySheet@GreySheet.org