

COVID 19 - This Guidance is Effective as of April 30 2020, and Until Further Notice

Community Garden Requirements

General Advice

Any person that uses community gardens should do so in accordance with the following requirements:

Entrance Restrictions:

1. Prohibit access to anyone who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or has had close contact with a confirmed case.
2. Restrict access to registered members, staff, and volunteers. Non-members and visitors should not be permitted to enter.
3. Permit access for planting, maintenance and harvesting food only.
4. Prohibit events such as flower festivals, children's events and other programming, training, group builds, etc.

Maintain Physical Distancing:

1. Maintain a distance of at least 2 metres (6 feet) from other people except for members of the same household.
2. Limit the number of gardeners in a space to ensure physical distancing can be maintained, if required. Groups of people at a site limited to 5 or less.

Ensure Good Hand Hygiene:

1. If hands are visibly soiled, handwashing with soap and water is preferred. Where possible, provide handwashing stations in the gardens.

2. If not available, hands should be wiped clean before applying alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
3. Perform hand hygiene before entering and upon leaving the garden.

Bring Disinfectant Supplies:

1. Recommend users bring disinfectant supplies such as water, soap, hand sanitizer and towels.
2. Provide instructions on cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces which are most likely to be contaminated. These may include hoses, door/gate handles, tools, etc. (refer to Resources Section below).

Avoid Sharing Gloves and Tools:

1. Bring your own gloves and tools and do not return gloves to any shared storage.
2. Instruct individuals who use gardening gloves to launder them after each use.

Signage:

1. Place clear, visible signage at all garden entrances reminding registered members, staff and volunteers about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and where to seek assistance if they have symptoms (Ontario's self-assessment tool, health care provider or Telehealth Ontario [1-866-797-0000]).



2. Place clear, visible signage throughout the garden — especially locations where shared equipment, tools, etc. are located — reminding registered members, staff and volunteers of the requirements that must be followed when using the garden to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

Communication:

1. Recommend gardens develop and communicate (to registered members, staff and volunteers) COVID-19 policies/protocols that are specific to the community garden.
2. Update the list of current registered members, staff and volunteers, and track those who have agreed to participate under COVID-19 policies and protocols.
3. Consider using a sign-in and sign-out system to track users accessing the garden each day. This may assist with communication and close-contact tracing if required, etc.

Resources:

LOCAL

[Poster Infographic](#) to support safety tips.

[Signage](#) to reinforce physical distancing requirements.

[LambtonPublicHealth.ca](#) to access related COVID-19 information and resources on:

- Physical distancing
- How to wash your hands
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Safe use of face coverings
- COVID-19 symptoms
- How to self-isolate

PROVINCIAL

General COVID-19 information

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>

e-Laws:

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200104>