

COVID-19 GARDENING GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY GARDENS & ADOPT-A-LOT



The City of Pittsburgh is monitoring the COVID-19 coronavirus epidemic closely and working with public health officials to reduce its spread. We realize that this is planting season, and getting outside in nature is important during this crisis, however social contact increases the risk of spreading the virus. We encourage you to exercise an abundance of caution during this time.

We must all do everything we can to keep each other safe by following these guidelines:

- **When in doubt, stay home.** Do not come to the garden if you or someone in your home is sick, if you are a member of a vulnerable population, have health conditions, or are a senior.
- **Do not hold group volunteer days**, no matter how small.
- **Visit the garden alone** or with members of your immediate household.
- **If several people are gardening, come back later.** Consider limiting the garden to 1-3 people at a time: leadership teams should communicate with members and offer sign-up times for gardening.
- **For collective duties, make an online task list.** Work done individually or in very small groups can still be shared by the community! Keep a task log on social media that people can sign up and check off tasks.
- **Post signage with these guidelines and rules in public.** Remember, our first responsibility is to keep each other safe.

While at the garden...

- **Practice social distancing:** stay at least an arm and a shovel (6 feet) from others.
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth or fabric mask.** In addition to social distancing, it is recommended to wear a mask in public.
- **Be aware of high-touch surfaces.** If you must touch, disinfect gate handles, water spigots, shed doors, etc., both before and after use.
- **Remove any and all personal items and trash** you bring to the garden.
- **Thoroughly wash all produce** you harvest from the garden.

Sharing is caring... but not right now!

- **Avoid using community tools and use your own.** If tools must be shared, be diligent and disinfect handles before and after use.
- **Do not share gloves.** Adults and kids should wear washable gloves while in garden and wash between visits.
- **Do not share food or beverages.**
- **Cover mouth and nose** with a tissue or cloth when coughing and sneezing.
- **Wash hands regularly.** Use soap, or hand sanitizer if there is no water available. Bring your own.
- **Don't touch your face.**