

Guidance for Minnesota Community Gardens

This document provides COVID-19 operational recommendations for Minnesota Community Gardens to implement in order to conduct business under Governor Walz's Executive Order 20-04 that closed restaurants, bars and other businesses where people gather. Minnesota Community Gardens are exempt from this order as long as they do not offer onsite food consumption (including food sampling) and implement social distancing practices within gardens.

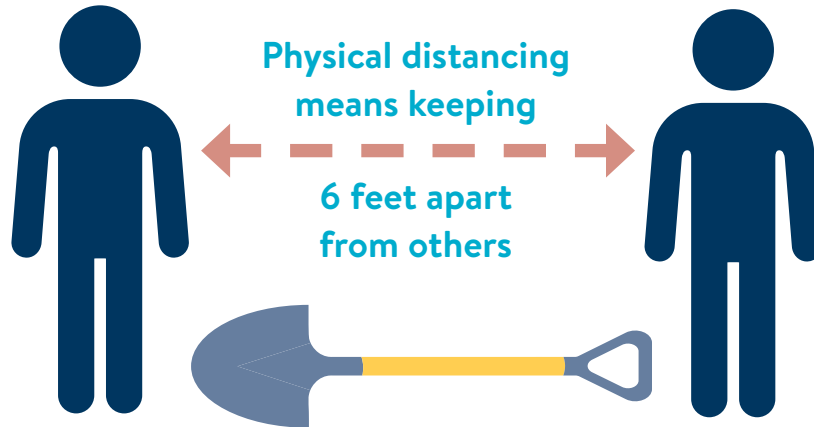
Community Garden Guidelines for Public Use

- All participants should be informed of these guidelines by the Garden Coordinator prior to usage of a Community Garden.
- Individuals must not enter community gardens if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. These symptoms include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath.
- Individuals must maintain a minimum of 6 feet of distance from other people within the garden.
- Signs demonstrating garden policies should be posted at each entrance to the garden and near shared areas (see example graphic).
- Consider establishing limits on the number of people allowed within the garden at one time, and / or establish garden monitors as able, to monitor the flow of traffic within the garden.
- Consider reducing the number of plots at the garden to create more space between neighboring plots.
- Do not hold community work days, celebrations or other events that congregate people at the community garden during this time.
- If share tables or donation bins are provided, make sure that hand washing facilities are available and that gardeners are aware to wash their hands before using them.
- Consider placing a hand-washing or sanitizing station at the garden, see University of Minnesota Extension On-Farm Food Safety Program (<https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/food-safety-fact-sheets/home>) for a [portable design option](#).
- Tools should not be provided at sites for shared use unless an opportunity is provided to disinfect the tools, or wash or sanitize hands before and after use.
- Consider organizing volunteers to clean and disinfect commonly used items and surfaces such as portable toilets, water spigots and hoses, entrance gate latches, etc. on a daily basis.
 - » EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, the Cause of COVID-19 (<https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>)
 - » American Chemistry Council Center for Biocide Chemistries - Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Fighting Products (<https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>)

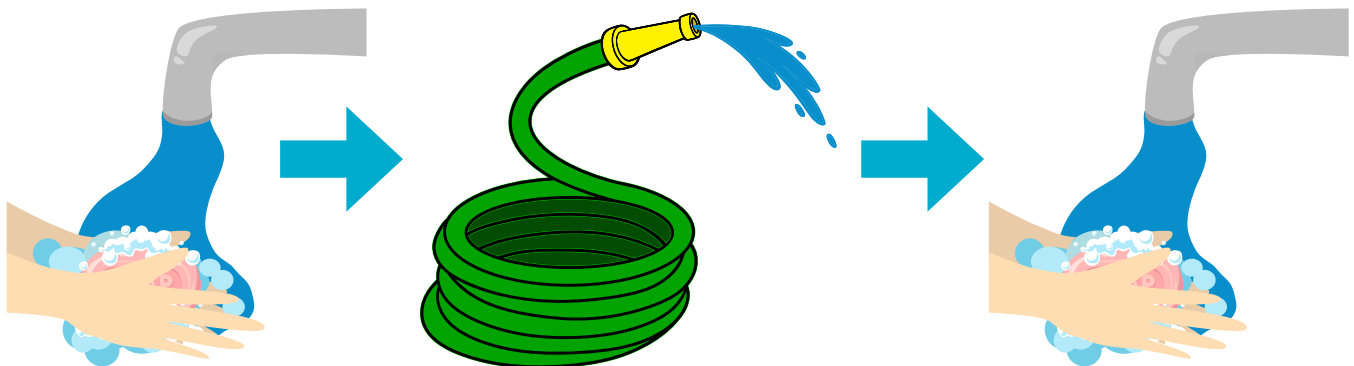
- » Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method, contact time, and the use of personal protective equipment, and don't mix them together!)
- » Not all products are appropriate for food contact surface sanitizing
- DO NOT offer any food or beverage service or samples of food or beverage to be consumed on site – either for sale or for free to the public.

Community Garden COVID-19 Important Precautions

1) Maintain 6 ft distance from others



2) Clean hands with soap and water before and after using shared tools



For more information on COVID-19 and illness prevention, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention-H.pdf>