

Dear Gardeners,

Community Gardens in the Parks is dedicated the mission of the Chicago Park District: to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leader of recreation and leisure opportunities; to provide safe, inviting and beautifully-maintained parks and facilities; and to create a customer-focused and responsive park system that prioritizes the needs of children and families.

Here are the guidelines per Chicago Park District below-please review:

Workdays are permitted in groups of 10 or less. *We encourage online meetings whenever possible.*

- *Smaller locations should consider fewer volunteers per group so that a physical distance of 6 feet or more can be maintained between volunteers.*
- *A schedule for dispersing gardener visits is recommended in locations where physical distancing of 6 feet or more would not be possible.*
- ***Please see the attachment "Managing COVID-19 at your Workday".***

Do not visit the garden if you or someone in your household is ill. *Seek medical advice and testing if you exhibit COVID-19 symptoms including: fever, cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath. When in doubt, please stay home.*

FACE COVERING is required. This may help in reducing transmission between asymptomatic people.

- *Face coverings should be worn in the garden regardless of whether social distancing measures can be maintained.*
- *Cover mouth and nose with face covering and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.*
- *Avoid touching the face cover while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.*
- *Single use masks should be properly disposed of in a trash receptacle. If one is not available in your park, please contact us.*

GLOVES should be used when visiting the garden. Remember glove usage does not replace proper hand sanitation procedures.

- *The outside of your glove can transmit diseases from one surface to another, including transmitting the disease to yourself and others.*
- *Do not touch your face, your keys, your cell phone, your car door handle, your wallet, etc., after being in public and touching anything that someone else might have.*
- *Minimize touching anything you absolutely do not need to*
- *Sanitize your hands before touching personal items*
- *Single use gloves should be properly disposed of in a trash receptacle. If one is not available in your park, please contact us.*

Maintain a social/physical distance of at least 6 feet between any other gardeners or park visitors.

Sharing of tools is not currently permitted. *Volunteers are encouraged to use personal hand tools when possible.*

- *Landscape staff will be unable to loan tools for group workdays until further notice.*
- *If communal tools are used, each gardener should be assigned their own tool(s) for the duration of each workday.*
 - *Tools must be sanitized at the end of each workday by spraying a solution of ½ c bleach per 1 gallon of water and allowing to sit for 5 minutes.*

Wash and sanitize hands regularly, before and after each visit. *Please make note of park facility access before your workday. Washroom facilities may not be available at all sites. Bring sanitizing wipes and be prepared to wipe anything down that you touch that someone else might come in contact with. Or - bring a clean cloth and a spray bottle of sanitizer. Wash reusable cloths regularly.*

Be aware of common surfaces such as gates, hoses, water sources, etc. Disinfect these surfaces before and after each use.

Leave no trace. *Remove any personal items you bring into the gardens when you leave.*

Thoroughly wash all produce you harvest before eating.