

To our Gardeners:

The following information is taken from the State Of Connecticut Department Of Agriculture - Office of the Commissioner guidelines.

The practices and protocols below are for community gardens and urban agriculture to implement in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These recommendations are in addition to guidance provided by the CDC, USDA, and other federal agencies.

Per Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7H and DECD's guidance on essential services, food and agriculture and providers of basic necessities are 'essential business.'

As such community garden and urban agriculture are:

1. Essential to the local community
2. Venues to grow and harvest healthy, local food
3. An opportunity for accessible food while practicing social distancing

In order to provide a safe and reliable nutritious food source for those growing, all community garden and urban agriculture organizers, staff, volunteers, and growers must be committed to adhering to health and safety standards identified by the CDC and this guidance.

### **Guidance to Share with Growers at Community Gardens**

- If you have COVID-19 or may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 do not come to the garden area.
  - If you are sick with any cold symptoms do not come to the garden area.
  - If you are sick, including a positive diagnosis with COVID-19, and require the food grown at your community garden plot, please contact the organization that manages the garden for information how it may be possible for you to obtain the food from the community garden.
  - Food harvested from the garden cannot be consumed at the garden.
  - Food harvested from the garden should be taken home and washed thoroughly prior to being consumed.
  - If someone else is in the garden area, practice social distancing of at least six (6) feet between people.
  - Wash your hands per the CDC's guidelines or use hand sanitizer frequently.
  - Bring sanitizing wipes or disinfectant and be prepared to wipe anything down that you touch that someone else might come in contact with.
  - After touching a common surface, such as locks, gates, doors, hoses, etc. wash your hands per the CDC guidance or use hand sanitizer.
  - No animals/pets are allowed in the community garden.
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- Wash hands regularly, at least 20 seconds each time, multiple times throughout the day.
  - Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Cover mouth with a bent elbow when sneezing or coughing. If a tissue is used, dispose of it immediately and follow with proper handwashing.
  - Maintain the recommended social distancing protocols of at least six (6) feet of separation between individuals.
  - Stay home if you are sick.

Also:

The shed is available for those who would like to use it. Please store your tools in the shed at your own risk.

The shed's lock combination is the same as the gate.

Please return the cart to the shed after use.

Please wear gloves.

Please roll up hoses and turn off water after use.