



Community Gardening
Network of Ottawa

Réseau de jardinage
communautaire d'Ottawa

Community Gardening in Ottawa during COVID-19
Community Garden Member Agreement
2022

All adult members taking part in a garden plot need to sign this agreement and confirm their updated email contact information for regular and urgent communications during the growing season. If new and additional Covid-19 safety measures come from Public Health, all gardeners signing this form acknowledge agreement to any new terms which will be sent to you (using the contact information you provide) by your Garden Coordinator.

Being vaccinated does not excuse a garden member from following all the protocols.

These safety protocols are required to be followed by all gardeners in all gardens at all times.

Only people who have 'signed' this agreement are allowed to be in the plots.

By 'signing' the registration form, everyone in the garden is agreeing to do the following:

Make sure you are healthy before going to the garden:

It is not permitted to enter the site if you have symptoms of COVID-19. All garden members agree to do a Covid-19 health self-assessment each day before attending the garden to ensure they are not ill. If you may be sick, you need to self-isolate or seek medical advice and not go to the garden until you are better. You can find the assessment online: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> or if you don't have internet at home, please ask your coordinator or Just Food for information about this.

Follow provincial regulations that masks are recommended at any time.
Understand and observe individual garden rules.

Garden committee and/or coordinators will follow public health advisory and assess in each garden whether to keep, restrict or remove garden-owned sitting and gathering areas.

Parents or guardians who bring children to the garden are responsible for following the guidelines and sanitizing any tools the children use.

Keep Hands and Tools Clean and Safe

Garden members must practice good personal hygiene practices such as washing hands, coughing or sneezing into their arm, and not touching their face (mouth, nose, or eyes) unless they have washed their hands immediately before. Washed hands are the best protection against accidentally transferring the virus to your mouth, nose or eyes where infection can get started.

Keep garbage and clutter out of the garden to maintain cleaner surfaces. Gardeners should dispose of used sanitizing wipes and personal protective equipment safely at home. Do not throw them in the compost bin.

Consider minimizing the use of shared tools and cleaning and disinfecting tools that are shared.

Stay in contact with the Coordinator all season

All garden members will maintain communication with their Community Garden Coordinator during the full growing season, and make sure coordinators have your contact information -phone and email (if you can access the internet).

Garden members understand that things could change throughout the growing season and that coordinators will get new information as soon as possible to everyone, which will need to be followed.

Every gardener who has an email can sign up for the Just Food gardening newsletter at

http://justfood.nationbuilder.com/newsletter_signup.

Crises like a pandemic increase tensions and anxiety. All garden members will do their best to respond with calmness and compassion to others around them.

Garden members will help to create a positive environment by sharing correct information and treating all people in gardens with respect.

Garden members will reach out to their coordinator if they have any questions, needs, or concerns. They can also reach out to Just Food's Community Gardening Network if there are challenges that cannot be solved with Coordinators Email comms@justfood.ca, or call 613-824-7771 to leave your name and phone number and the garden you are at.

Follow the rules!

All community garden members need to recognize that Community Gardens are deemed as essential food services during the pandemic, and therefore need to do their part to follow all current public health advice and all current COVID regulations. If rules and regulations change during the growing season, gardeners will be informed by garden coordinators, and will agree to follow the up to date guidelines.

The need to contain the spread of the COVID-19 must be our main focus at this time.