

# COVID-19 Community Garden Guidelines



## Strategies for Garden Organizers

Community and school gardens have an important role in providing access to fresh food, teaching children and youth, and contributing to community food security. To support you and your garden community to operate safely, these guidelines provide some strategies to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Recognizing that each garden is different, what works for one may or may not work for another. Think about which strategies may be suitable for your garden.

- Consider **limiting public access** to gardens where possible.
- Consider strategies to promote **physical distancing** and **limit group gatherings** as per current Public Health measures.<sup>1</sup> Some examples include:
  - Create a schedule to limit the number of gardeners using the garden at one time.
  - Suggest only 1-2 gardeners per plot at a time.
  - Consider staggering the use of garden plots. For example, users of even numbered plots visit on even numbered days and users of odd numbered plots visit on odd numbered days.
- Where possible, **make supplies available** for [hand washing](#)/hand sanitizing and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces (e.g. watering system, shed/cabinet or gate handles, locks, etc.).
  - If supplies are not available, recommend that gardeners bring supplies from home.
- **Remove gardening gloves** from storage areas to prevent sharing of gloves between gardeners.
- **Post signage** in common areas as a reminder to gardeners to physically distance, wash hands, etc.
- **Communicate with gardeners about safety protocols.** Consider ways to share the [COVID-19 Community Garden Guidelines - Tips for Gardeners](#) or other protocols put in place, by email or posting to your garden website/Facebook group, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> For the latest COVID-19 information visit:  
[novascotia.ca/coronavirus](https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus)