**COMMUNITY GARDEN COVID SAFE PLAN**

**The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the way we live and work. Many industries have had to adapt and as a result we will be implementing new procedures to ensure our garden use can be safely facilitated in a changing environment.**

**The purpose of this Plan is to establish the standards that will enable you to work with Hume City Council to ensure community safety in our Community Garden spaces under the COVID-19 restriction.**

**The Community Gardens COVID Safe Plan has been developed in line with the Victorian and Australian Government advice and adheres to the relevant Hume City Council Policies and procedures.**

**The Community Gardens COVID Safe Plan is applicable to all users of the Hume City Council Community Gardens.**

**The standards and guidelines in this plan have been developed in line with the Victorian Government’s recommendations.**

**Registration**

All garden users will be required to register via a QR code upon entry to assist with rapid contact tracing based on Victorian Government guidelines. The QR code will be available at all entry points to the gardens.

**Rostered Attendance**

Council Officers will work with you to establish preferred times to attend the Community Garden. You will be required to adhere to a roster system to be established for your safety and that of your fellow gardeners.

Gardeners will receive induction training provided by Council Officers online to ensure they have:

* an understanding of the COVID Safe Plan and can adhere to it; and
* a smart phone to be able to use the QR Code / contact tracing method.

**Capacity**

The capacity of the community garden includes the four-metre square rule, while adhering

to physical distancing (1.5 metres), and up to 10 people within the space. This is based on the current density rules as directed by the Victorian Government Road Map.

**Fitted face masks**

The wearing of a fitted face mask that covers the nose and mouth is mandatory at all Hume City Council venues and community facilities unless there is a legal exemption. All gardeners (over 12-years-old), contractors and staff are required to always wear a face mask.

**Signage**

Signage across our venues and community facilities has been increased to communicate the conditions of entry in English and a variety of other languages.

**Sanitising**

Hand hygiene is a vital part of containing the spread of COVID-19. Gardeners are advised to always wear gloves whilst in the garden and to always carry hand sanitiser with them.

**The standards and guidelines in this plan have been developed in line with the Victorian Government’s recommendations.**

Given the ever-evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is highly recommended you check the below resources regularly for the most up-to-date information.

**Victorian Department of Health and Human Services** [**https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/**](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/)

**Victorian Department of Health and Human Services Road Map**

[**https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorias-roadmap**](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorias-roadmap)

**What you need to do**

* Observe current Victorian Government COVID 19 restrictions <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19>
* Practice [good hygiene](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19) and regularly and thoroughly wash your hands. Gloves must be worn prior to entry and until after exiting the garden.
* Maintain [physical distancing](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19), keep at least 1.5 metres away from people you don’t live with.
* Always wear a fitted face mask, unless you have a lawful reason for not doing so. A face mask needs to be worn covering both your nose and mouth.
* **Not enter the garden if you are unwell, infected, under quarantine, or awaiting covid-19 test results.**
* Only meet in the community garden in groups of up to 10 people current road map.
* Record your entry into the garden using the QR Code.
* Provide all your own garden tools, including watering cans.
* During COVID do not share garden equipment with others, apart from the people you live with.
* Only tend to your own garden plot.
* During COVID restrictions do not use any indoor or shared facilities. Toilets, tool sheds/storage areas will be locked until further notice.
* Avoid sharing food or drinks.

**It is critical that these protocols are followed for continued access to the garden.**

Should you have any issues, queries, or concerns, please contact Hume City Council’s responsible officer Maria Callipari 0417 234 655.

* I have read, understand, and will abide by this COVID Safe Plan

Name: *(Please Print)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plot Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Garden: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLAIMER**

All information in this document is of a general nature and should not be regarded as legal or medical advice or relied on for assistance in any particular circumstance or situation. In any important matter, you should seek appropriate independent professional advice in relation to your own circumstances. Hume City Council accepts no responsibility or liability for any damage, loss and expense incurred as a result of the reliance on this information guide. Events held at a Hume City Council venue or community facility are subject to advice from the Department of Health and Human Services. Visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au for the most up-to-date information.





  

