



# PPS School Gardens Maintenance Safety Plan

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**PURPOSE:** To prevent and or reduce the possible spread of COVID-19 while employees and volunteers continue to manage PPS school gardens.

**SCOPE:** These procedures apply to all employees, families, and volunteers who are maintaining PPS school gardens.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** PPS plumbers are responsible for turning on the water at schools with gardens. Current employees, families, volunteers, and community members who are typically responsible for maintaining the school gardens are allowed to be on school grounds to water and harvest food.

**OPERATIONAL TIMELINE:** Water will be turned on based on need. Individuals responsible for maintaining the school gardens may be on school grounds as needed for proper care of the gardens.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Plumbers must follow the maintenance operational safety plan at all times.

Please note: Volunteers maintaining schools gardens will **not** have access to the school building, they must bring all necessary gardening tools with them. School water spouts will be turned on and running.

Volunteers responsible for maintaining the school gardens shall:

1. Wear gloves at all times.
2. PPS highly recommends volunteers to wear cloth face coverings.
3. Follow all hand washing & personal hygiene standard procedures prior to arriving onsite.
4. If more than one volunteer must be in the garden at the same time, follow all social distancing protocols: Attempt to work in separate spaces within the garden when possible and maintain a distance of approximately 6 feet from others when possible. No handshaking or physical touching – use other non-contact methods of greeting.
5. Follow [regular district guidance for school gardens](#) and harvesting.
6. School gardens at sites hosting meals who want to harvest food and donate it back, may give the food to the meal site Nutrition Services staff. Garden staff must communicate and make arrangements with Nutrition Services in advance.
7. School gardens at sites not hosting meals who want to harvest food and donate it back, will receive further instructions from Nutrition Services.

## QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding the District's social-distancing protocols to Joe Crelier, Director of Risk Management, at [staysafe@pps.net](mailto:staysafe@pps.net).