

Suggestions for COVID-19 Unloading Precautions

- Remind all volunteers to stay home if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Anyone feeling ill should not show up for unload.
- Guests that would not be participating in unloading should be urged not to attend.
- All unloaders should have masks, if closer than 6 feet apart
- A hand washing or sanitizing station should be provided and all volunteers encouraged to use it before and after the unload.
- Identify small groups and keep them together. Make sure small groups do not intermingle. Try and separate unloading areas within the patch. You can color code volunteers using tape. Include all family members within a team.
- Use gloves
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow, not your hand.
- Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces between uses. Wagons, back of truck etc...
- Hold all group meetings before, during and after your patch outdoors.
- Activities that increase the exposure to saliva must not be allowed including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers and eating sunflower seeds.
- If water is being provided, have a separate cooler for each small group. Group coolers and disposable cups should not be allowed.
- Do not share wagons and wheelbarrows
- Minimize use of areas that lead to close contact, such as inside the truck. Assign 2-3 people and they should remain inside the truck throughout. You can place a wheelbarrow or wagon inside the truck to help limit volunteers inside the truck.
- If you have an exceedingly large group of volunteers you might consider staggered scheduling them to minimize the size of the group.
- Consider not using volunteers that are in high risk groups. Such as people with asthma, diabetes or other health problems.
- Assign one person to monitor and caution volunteers regarding maintaining social distancing, hand washing etc. prior to and during unloading.
- Discourage unnecessary contact, such as high fives, handshakes, fist bumps and hugs.
- Encourage volunteers to wait in their cars with guardians until truck arrives.
- Provide physical guides such as tape, cones, etc...to maintain distancing. If you are a group that tosses pumpkins, set a place that each volunteer stands.
- Be aware of state or local regulations regarding COVID-19