

VISTA Gardens COVID 19 Rules (January 2021)

1. The Garden is open to all members and their guests only for the following activities:
 - a. Tending to their garden plots (e.g., seeding and transplanting, watering, weeding, fertilizing, harvesting, summarizing, solarizing, etc.).
 - b. Tending to the common areas (e.g., pulling weeds, laying mulch, mowing, watering and fertilizing and pruning newly planted trees).
 - c. Working the compost (picking up compostable material from the local food pantry and delivering it to the compost bin, bringing compostable material from home to put in the bin, turning the bins, watering the bins, sifting the bins, general cleaning of the compost area).
 - d. Working the Seed House (seeding and transplanting, watering new seedlings, fertilizing new seedlings, etc.).
 - e. Pond cleaning and maintenance.
 - f. Maintaining common beds (flowers, butterflies, native plants, herbs, hugelkultur, etc.) with watering, pulling weeds, fertilizing, harvesting, etc.
 - g. Maintaining bird feeders and bee hives (filling bird feeders with seeds).
 - h. General maintenance (repairing/replacing irrigation system, pond pump/filters, broken wood, compost canopy, trash removal, etc.).
2. Only Seasonal Gardeners or Social Members of VISTA may volunteer at VISTA Gardens during the pandemic, unless an exception is pre-approved by VISTA's Board of Directors.
3. VISTA has suspended education and social activities that require closer than six-foot physical distancing.
4. Children under 16 are not allowed on the property without adult supervision responsible for the child.
5. Social distancing – All members and their guests at the Garden in accordance with item 1 shall maintain a minimum of six feet from each other. Groups of family members and friends must maintain six feet of physical distancing from others. Only one person at a time may be in the HRS greenhouse and in the red shed.
6. Personal Protection Equipment (masks): As a Hillsborough County Park, VISTA adheres to Hillsborough County requirements. The Board of County Commissioners issued a revised mask directive in December 2020, a portion of which applies to wearing a face covering in outdoor settings:

Does the (Hillsborough County) Board's order require me to wear a face covering when I'm walking my dog or jogging?

No. The Board's order only applies when persons are inside a commercial, for-profit or non-profit business that provides goods or services to the public and not maintaining social distancing (at least six feet) from others. However, for your own protection and the protection of others, the CDC recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/public-safety/emergency-management/stay-safe/face-coverings-and-masks>

7. All members and their guests must bring their own sanitizing materials and wipe down all tools, locks, watering buckets, watering nozzles and watering spigot handles before and after using them. VISTA strongly recommends that you wash your hands before and after you touch communal items.
8. All members are encouraged to bring their own equipment from home.
9. Portable toilet – due to thefts each member shall bring their own toiletries and hand sanitizer and must sanitize after use.
10. Signage – This list will be posted in a minimum of two places around the garden.