



# City of Framingham

## Division of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs

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### Memorandum

**From:** James Snyder, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs  
**Date:** June 10, 2020  
**Subject:** Phase II Community Garden Reopening Guidelines

**Reference:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
**Date:** June 4, 2020  
**Subject:** Safety and Reopening Standards for Parks, Open Space, and Outdoor Education Programs – Phase II <https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-parks-open-space-and-outdoor-education-programs-phase-ii/download>

**Website:** <https://www.framinghamma.gov/951/Parks-Recreation-Cultural-Affairs>

**Email:** [parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov](mailto:parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov)

The following guidelines apply to Parks, Open Space, and Outdoor Education Programs during Phase II of Framingham's Reopening.

All visitors to parks and open space, and managers associated with properties or activities herein, should abide by the specific guidelines outlined. Property-specific guidelines should be posted at entrance points to areas and on relevant social media/websites. Guidelines provided herein should apply to all parks, reservations and open spaces unless otherwise specified.

This guidance should apply until amended or rescinded. Any questions regarding this guidance can be sent to [parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov](mailto:parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov)

#### **Framingham Orders and Guidelines**

**Face Coverings and Masks:** All visitors to parks and open spaces, as well as those participating in outdoor education programs should comply with *COVID-19 Order 31: Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible*. The order requires any person over the age of 2, whether indoors or outdoors, to wear a face covering or mask when they cannot maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others, unless they have a medical condition preventing them from doing so. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>

**Group Size:** No groups larger than 10 are allowed to gather indoors. The Order does not apply to public gatherings of more than 10 people in an unenclosed, outdoor space such as a park, athletic field, or parking lot, while permissible this type of gathering is not advised; provided, that individuals must follow social distancing protocols by remaining at least six feet apart. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/march-31-2020-assemblage-guidance/download>

**Social Distancing:**

Visitors should always practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from others and adhering to all site-specific rules, regulations, and posted signage regarding permitted uses.

**Self-Care:**

After visiting public spaces, visitors should wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer.

**Framingham Community Garden Guidelines:**

- Community gardens, and associated activities, are permissible during Phase II to the extent allowed by the managing entity.
- Users of community gardens should follow social distancing guidelines and should avoid utilizing communal tools, hoses, and other equipment, and avoid sharing personal equipment.
- Community garden users should only visit and utilize plots with members of the same household if social distancing cannot be maintained.
- If crowding becomes an issue, community garden committees and property managers should create a schedule to avoid crowding of individual plot users and maintenance of social distancing protocols.
- City Parks will be open from dawn to dusk.
- Please use proper hand hygiene and not share equipment and clean and wipe down equipment including water bottles.
- Users waiting to utilize a garden should wait outside until previous users have vacated the facility to ensure proper social distancing and prevent accidental contact of other users' equipment.

**Trash Disposal General Guidelines:**

- Visitors of public parks, reservations, and open spaces should expect limited or no trash disposal receptacles.
- When visiting public properties without trash receptacles, visitors should adhere to a strict "carry in, carry out" policy and take waste with them.
- Where trash receptacles are available for normal use, park managers should, where feasible, provide no touch, lidless trashcans.