

Tilth Alliance's COVID-19 Safety Plan for Children's Programs



Tilth Alliance is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all employees and program participants as our nation deals with the COVID-19 crisis. In order to ensure the safe operation of our programs, careful consideration has been given to screening/infection prevention, handwashing/sanitization practices, social distancing, and communications/training. The following protocols have been adopted based on the [Washington DOH guidance](#) and will be strictly followed during all hours of program operation.

Screening

All staff of Tilth Alliance Youth and Families Programs have been notified of the common symptoms of COVID 19 and have been encouraged to actively monitor their own health.

Common symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fever above 100.4 or chills
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches
- Loss of sense of taste and/or smell
- Persistent headache
- Unusual fatigue
- Nausea/diarrhea/vomiting
- Congestion/runny nose – not related to seasonal allergies

Screening Form

At the beginning of each program session, parents/guardians will be given a checklist of symptoms associated with COVID 19 and will be asked to review it with their child(ren) each day to ensure they are not experiencing these symptoms. If the form has not been completed before class or camp, Tilth Alliance staff will provide a symptom check during sign-in.

COVID-19 Symptom Check Form

Date _____

Please indicate whether your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms.

Fever of 100.4 or above	Yes	No
Shortness of breath	Yes	No
Cough	Yes	No
Muscle aches	Yes	No
Sore throat	Yes	No
Loss of sense of taste and/or smell	Yes	No
Persistent headache	Yes	No
Nausea/diarrhea/vomiting	Yes	No
Congestion/stuffy nose – not related to seasonal allergies	Yes	No

List any other symptoms (please describe):

Has your child been in close contact with anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days? Close contact is being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period with a person.

Yes No

Within the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told your child to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID-19 infection?

Yes No

I understand that it is necessary to keep my child at home if they are experiencing any of the listed symptoms above in order to help contain the spread of COVID-19.

Camper's name: _____

Parent/guardian name: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____

Health Monitoring Onsite

Tilth Alliance staff and program participants will be encouraged to monitor their own health. If an employee reports feeling any of the symptoms associated with COVID 19, they will immediately remove themselves from the group and leave the site. If a participant reports feeling any of the symptoms, a staff-member will remove this child from the group individually and contact the parent/guardian for them to be picked up.

- If a class participant or staff-member has developed symptoms of COVID-19 or has been in close contact with someone who has developed symptoms, the following procedures will take place:
 - o The participant will be removed from the group (under supervision). A parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up their camper.
 - o Any areas or equipment used by the participant will be cleaned and disinfected.
 - o Other program participants will be kept physically distant from any areas or equipment used by the student who developed symptoms.
 - o An incident report will be completed and brought to the attention of the program supervisor.
 - o Parents/guardians of other participants will be immediately notified of the situation.
 - o The participant will not return to the program until they are experiencing no symptoms, at least 10 days have passed since the first symptoms or positive test result, and 24 hours have passed with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications). A refund will be provided for any days missed due to illness. The program supervisor will remain in contact with the participant's family to ensure that all required conditions for return are met.

Handwashing/Sanitization Practices

Handwashing

Tilth Alliance will ask staff and participants to wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and hot water regularly throughout the day and prior to arriving on site. When staff and children arrive on site, they will be asked to thoroughly wash their hands or apply a hand sanitizer before engaging in the program. Participants and staff must wash hands before eating lunch or snack and before/after any activity involving garden equipment or other shared supplies.

Sanitizing

Any surfaces frequently touched by staff or participants, such as door handles or garden tools, should be regularly disinfected. Any equipment that is shared between different groups should be disinfected before sharing.

A cleaning schedule will be established to ensure the consistent sanitization of surfaces.

Social Distancing

Maintaining proper social distancing is essential to containing the spread of COVID 19. A number of measures will be taken to ensure that everyone on site remains socially distant at all times.

All-Outdoor Programming

All Tilth Alliance summer camps and other Youth and Families programs will be held entirely outdoors, with exception of bathroom breaks. Research has shown that Covid-19 transmission is significantly lower in outdoor settings.

Distancing Guidelines

To the greatest extent possible, children should maintain a distance of at least 3 feet from other children at all times. For activities when a mask cannot be worn, such as lunch or snack, children should maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from each other. In addition, during activities involving heightened exhalation, such as singing, shouting, and running, children should maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other. Staff must continue to maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other and from children.

Gathering Spaces/Markers

During communal gathering times, such as Opening Circle, Story, and Lunch, chairs and/or sit spots will be placed at minimum 3 feet (if masks are worn) or 6 feet apart (if masks cannot be worn, such as during lunch).

Small Group Sizes

Participants will be placed in small groups of 8 campers maximum. Groups will also include up to 2 Junior Counselors and 2 Instructors.

Groups will participate in activities separately and will never be physically close to each other. Groups will avoid sharing equipment that has not been sanitized.

Siblings signed up for the same camp week will be kept in the same mini groups in order to minimize exposure from outside the household.

Children in the same “pods” from different households must still adhere to socially distancing guidelines. Children from the same household do not need to adhere to social distancing guidelines among each other.

Personal Protective Equipment

All Youth and Families program staff and participants will be required to wear a mask during program hours. Tilth Alliance will ask staff to supply their own PPE, but extra supplies will be available as back-up.

Washington’s [mask mandate](#) requires that all individuals ages 5 and older wear a face mask when indoors or when social distancing is not able to be maintained in an outdoor setting. The order also highly encourages the same set of guidelines for children ages 3-5 who are able to wear a mask. While

our program takes place exclusively outdoors and we will be social distancing as much as possible, wearing a mask is necessary to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

When wearing facial masks, staff will be instructed to avoid touching them and will be reminded to regularly wash all PPE.

Parents/guardians of campers will be asked to wear a mask when signing their children in and out.

Respiratory etiquette, such as covering the mouth with the elbow when sneezing, will be encouraged and reviewed regularly. All participants will be reminded regularly to avoid touching their face, mouth, and eyes with their hands.

Communications and Training

Communications

A summary of COVID 19 safety policies and requirements will be sent electronically to all participating families in advance of the program session. All policies will also be posted on the Tilth Alliance website and social media pages. Lastly, signs will be hung around the program site to remind staff, families, and campers of policies during the camp day. Participants not following policies will be reminded verbally to do so; continued negligence of COVID 19 policies may be grounds for dismissal from the program with no refund at the discretion of the Youth and Families Project Manager and Executive Director.

Training

Following approval and feedback from the Executive Director, the Youth and Families Project Manager will provide a COVID 19 training to all Youth and Families staff prior to the program's start date. COVID 19 safety policies will be regularly reviewed at any staff meetings that take place. Any policy updates will be promptly communicated to participants and staff.