

Advice during Coronavirus crisis

Although nothing in our lives seems normal at the moment, Harthill is for now allowed to carry on much as normal. But we all do of course have to follow the advice given by the government and the NHS as regards social distancing (something we'd never heard of a few weeks back) and hygiene.

So:

- The site must be kept secure; family members must be supervised by the plot holder.
- Obviously if you or anyone in your household shows symptoms of COVID19 you should be self isolating and **must not** come to the allotment.
- This month's plot inspection has been suspended as we don't know how the crisis has affected everyone's ability to care for their plot.
- The compost toilet will remain open, but please maintain proper hygiene precautions. We have no gel as it is in short supply so bring your own.
- You can cover your plot with membrane if you feel it's in danger of getting overgrown. Contact sales@harthillallotments.org.uk. Cost is: 2 metre width - £1.20 per metre; 3.3 metres - £1.80; 4 metres £2.40. Cash only.

The City Council has issued advice which we have emailed to all tenants. Amazingly, some sites have been seen having what the council describes as "large gatherings". This is plainly ludicrous behaviour and could lead to sites being closed. ***It is essential that we continue to observe government instructions on social distancing.*** If you don't need to go to the site, don't

MANURE: We've had a manure delivery (thanks to George). Please return wheelbarrows to the hut when not using as we are short at the moment. WASH YOUR HANDS AFTER MOVING MANURE and do not handle food or drink until your hands after you have been shifting it.

INSURANCE CLAIM SETTLED: Our insurers have paid our claim in full (minus excess) following the break in, thanks to a truly Herculean effort by our Treasurer, Barbara. Most of the equipment has now been replaced and mowing has restarted. Please make sure that you keep the paths clear, so no weed mountains (a bad idea anyway), no stones on the paths (they trash the blades) or cutting into the paths.

THANKS TO EVERYONE ON THE HELP DAY: It seems like another age now but thanks to everyone who pitched in on our last help day. Obviously we can't arrange another one in the foreseeable future, but it's days like this that help to keep Harthill in such good shape. There are no hidden elves coming out at night to do the work, we have to do it all ourselves!

THE SHED: The shed has been cleared out and tidied up so please help to keep it that way. Make sure that your tools are in a clearly labelled container and return all communal tools to the shed when you have finished with them. Also, one tenant recently **left the shed unlocked** because he/she felt that was OK because they were on site. **This is not so** - lock the shed and scramble the lock whenever you have finished using it.

BIRD FOOD: Many people like to feed birds but if you put it on the ground it magically becomes **rat food**. Please make sure any bird food is put in dedicated feeders or at least well away from the rats.

Please

- Don't cut into paths
- Keep paths clear
- Scramble locks
- Label bins
- Don't leave your engine running at gate - you could be carjacked.
- KEEP YOUR DISTANCE
- WASH HANDS