

**Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs**

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3
Tel: 416-326-3074
www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA

**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3
Tél. : 416 326-3074
www.ontario.ca/MAAARO



Ontario

RECEIVED

April 27, 2020

REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

April 25, 2020

Dear Friends;

Nothing is more important than protecting the health and well-being of Ontarians.

Since first learning of COVID-19, Ontario has taken decisive action to stop the spread of this virus, while ensuring the continuity of critical operations and services.

Given the evolving situation, the government has made an amendment to the emergency order under the [Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act as set out in O Reg. 104/20](#). This decision is endorsed by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Effective immediately, the Ontario government is allowing the use of allotment and community gardens across Ontario, provided that people practice physical distancing and do not gather in groups of more than five.

Those taking part in community and public allotment gardens are required to follow the advice of their local medical officer of health and adhere to the requirements that pertain to the use of any facilities.

The order is available at the following link, which will be updated within the next few days: www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200104

During these unprecedented times, I'm so proud to see Ontarians coming together to defeat this ruthless virus and to witness the awakening of an incredible spirit of duty and volunteerism. Community and allotment gardens play an important role in supporting people vulnerable to food insecurity amid this outbreak and I look forward to seeing community gardens across Ontario open as soon as possible.

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REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒ _____



Good things grow in Ontario
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2
Bureau principal du ministère: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

If you require further information, please contact Service Ontario: 1-866-532-3161 or Stop the Spread Business Information Line – 1-888-444-3659.

I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernie Hardeman', with a large, stylized initial 'E'.

Ernie Hardeman
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs