



# NOFA-NY Certified Organic, LLC

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## NOFA-NY On-site Inspection Safety Plan

### Overview

NOFA-NY performs on-site inspections following required state mandates and safety protocols during COVID-19 to protect the health of our inspectors, certified operations, and communities while ensuring compliance with the USDA organic regulations. On-site inspections will minimize COVID-19 risk by following a required safety plan.

### Safety Plan

The NOFA-NY On-site Inspection Safety Plan will be readily available to each operation and inspector.

**Per CDC:** People may choose to mask at any time. Masks are required on public transportation and may be required in other places by local or state authorities. For more information and updates, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

- **Materials that inspectors will have available in case needed to safely conduct on-site inspections:**

- Face masks
- Gloves
- Hand sanitizer/sanitizing wipes/sanitized pens
- Shoe coverings

- **Prior to inspection:**

- Inspector and operator should discuss all necessary precautions and considerations prior to the on-site inspection.
- If an inspector contracts COVID-19, on-site inspections must not be conducted by the inspector for at least 5 days and inspector is symptom free. A virtual inspection may be possible. The operators of any scheduled inspections in that timeframe shall be notified.
- If an operator or their employees contract COVID-19, the inspector should be notified, and the on-site inspection must not be conducted for at least 5 days and parties are symptom free. A virtual inspection may be possible.
- If the inspector or operator is known to be exposed to COVID-19 and is not up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations, on-site inspections must not be conducted for 5 days unless tested negative for COVID-19 per CDC guidelines.
- All participants must be healthy with no COVID-19 symptoms in the past 5 days.
- Where, CDC, regional, state, local guidelines, or business mandates require more strict precautions, those must be followed and communicated to the inspector in advance.

*-continued-*



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- **During Inspection - Following CDC guidelines and parameters these are optional based on inspector and operator preferences:**
  - Face masks/coverings
  - Physical Distancing
    - Inspectors and clients respectively retain the rights to avoid close contact areas, such as entering the residence.
  - Carry hand sanitizer and/or handwipes during the inspection and use as needed.
  - Minimize the number of people involved in the on-site portion of the inspection.
  - Records audit during the inspection may be conducted outside. Records may be required to be submitted ahead of time to inspector. Operator must provide the requested documentation by the date/time given.
  - Limit the sharing of objects and discourage touching of shared surfaces; or, when in contact with shared objects or frequently touched areas, wear gloves or sanitize or wash hands before and after contact.

*All the above protocols should be followed for Residue Collections and On-site Additional Inspections, Announced or Unannounced.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the certification office. Thank you!