

**Native Plant Salvage Foundation:**  
**Revised Covid-safe Protocols: Fall 2022-Winter 2023**

**Executive Summary:**

- Be prepared to wear a mask at NPSF events when requested
- Follow sanitation protocols

**Background:** Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, our first goal has been and remains everyone's health and safety! Protection of all participants is an obligation we all share, and these protocols were developed with that in mind. Additionally, to prevent the loss of participation by members of our group who have a low-risk tolerance, our protocols will be set for the comfort level of **those** individuals, as participants with high-risk tolerance can adapt to more conservative measures.

**Prevent transmission & serious disease:** It should be understood by all participants that any group event carries risks of contracting Covid-19 and other illnesses. Each participant takes responsibility for ensuring their own safety by following state and federal prevention guidelines, including wearing a quality mask that will protect you, ensuring adequate physical distance from others, and vaccination.

With the end of the Governor's Emergency Orders, as of November 1, 2022, NPSF and WSU Extension will no longer require full vaccination status to participate in in-person events. NSPF and WSU strongly implore our community to follow recommendations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the Washington State Department of Health. These recommendations include getting vaccinated and receiving updated COVID-19 boosters as eligible, as vaccinations remain the most effective tool to prevent serious Covid-19 disease that results in hospitalization and/or death.

**Face masks:** Masks will still be considered our *number-one safety measure* to prevent disease transmission. Frequently, mask usage may just be intermittent, but masks will still be required for all events. All participants must plan to bring masks with them to our events, or use one of the masks we provide.

Masks will still be required when working within **close proximity** to any other participant (except participants in the same bubble), even outside (our group has experienced Covid

transmission in outdoor settings). **All participants are encouraged to feel comfortable wearing their masks consistently.** Everyone should be prepared to wear their masks more rather than less to ensure that all participants feel safe and secure.

**Eating/drinking:** Participants are asked to please separate themselves from others to eat or drink.

**Sanitation:** We will continue to maintain sanitation protocols enacted at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, including use of alcohol-based (or other) sanitation spray, provision of hand-washing basin where possible, and regular sanitation of shared implements and equipment.

**Indoor events:** At this time, NPSF does not plan to hold indoor events, except by Zoom or other electronic means. When we return to indoor events, we will evaluate the safety concerns and current health recommendations at that time to develop new policies. For now, any indoor encounters should be supported by masks worn by all participants, and use of all possible ventilation.