

Updated June 8, 2020

**OSU Extension Guidance for
OHCE Groups and Master FCS/Wellness Volunteers during the Pandemic.**

This guidance aims to align with Governor Stitt's Oklahoma's Open Up and Recover Safely Plan (<https://www.okcommerce.gov/covid19/ours-plan/>) as well as OSU guidance. It is subject to change. Phases are defined by the State of Oklahoma's status. All Extension office and volunteer operations must be compliant with all federal, state, county and local public health proclamations and ordinances. Volunteers should be aware that county Extension Professionals must follow guidelines listed above. Be mindful that during Phase 3 Extension offices may only allow one client in the waiting area at a time. Please honor the guidelines Extension personnel must follow in Extension offices.

The Master FCS/Wellness volunteers please refer to the OSU Extension Office Reopening Guidance, May 5, updated June 1, 2020 for protocol for volunteers.

The Oklahoma Home and Community Education (OHCE) program involves volunteers who hold meetings and perform community service. Most of these meetings and activities take place at the Extension office and other county-owned buildings. County facilities fall under city and county guidelines. Extension Offices must follow those guidelines as well as OSU guidelines. If gardens and parks are open, including gardens at Extension offices, we recommend you follow your city or county guidelines.

If your county is experiencing increased numbers in COVID 19 outbreaks please consider not meeting.

OHCE guidance for meetings during Phase 3 (June 1 – Until further notice):

- **If you are 65 and older or have a compromised immune system, you are “safer-at-home”.**
- Advise members in advance that if they have any symptoms or feel unwell, they should not attend.
- Indoor group meetings can take place with 50 or fewer people only if social distancing can be practiced.
- Hosts and participants provide and wear face coverings and bring their own hand sanitizer.
- The host should frequently disinfect high-touch areas, including door handles, restroom surfaces, tables, handrails, etc.
- Hosts should advise anyone who appears sick to return home.

Should you provide food at your meeting? At this time, we recommend food or snacks not be provided as part of OHCE meetings. If you feel you need to provide food or snacks, please communicate with your OHCE Advisor on recommended safety protocols.