

# Danforth Plant Science Center

## COVID-19 -Positive Response Plan

The Danforth Plant Science Center recognizes the potential of exposure to Coronavirus (COVID-19) in our building and the impact it could have on our people and the Center. Accordingly, we have the following plan in place in the event of a positive test for COVID-19 of an individual who was present in our Building(s).

The purpose of this Response Plan is to protect The Danforth Community, reduce the spread of the virus, and ensure compliance with regulatory obligations

### Response Process

If an individual tests positive for COVID-19 they are to immediately contact Anna Dibble ([adibble@danforthcenter.org](mailto:adibble@danforthcenter.org)). The identity of the individual will be held confidential unless the individual provides consent to share their name. If the individual had their test performed in St. Louis County, the St. Louis County Health Department will have already been notified of the positive test and will also be notifying Anna Dibble. Once Human Resources (HR) receives this notification the following actions will be taken.

1. HR works with individual to identify close contacts within Danforth Center
  - a. HR contacts impacted workers and notifies them of a mandatory 14 day quarantine.
  - b. HR & Leadership determines appropriate response to non-impacted workers.
2. HR works with individual to identifies area(s) of facility exposure to COVID-19
  - a. Facilities/Safety immediately closes off affected areas and posts warnings
  - b. Facilities/Safety contacts third party Cleaning Company for Sterilization of exposed areas.
3. If the individual was diagnosed/tested outside of St. Louis County, HR will encourage them to contact the St. Louis County Health Department to let them know of the positive test.

### Communication with the Infected Individual

HR will start communication with the infected individual. The purpose of this communication is to:

1. Confirm individual is receiving care they need.
2. Identify areas and people the individual had contact with and during what time.
3. Determine if the individual knows when they might have been exposed.
4. Confirm with the individual that they should not report to work and should self-quarantine to avoid contact with other people as much as possible to keep from spreading illness. The decision to discontinue home isolation and to return to work should be made in accordance with the CDC Guidelines and with approval from HR.
5. Communicate all available resources and benefits available to them.
6. Confirm with an individual that they should not return to work until a doctor confirms it is safe.

*In the unlikely event that an individual receives notification of a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 while at The Danforth Plant Science Center, they will be isolated in a separate room and provided with a mask to wear until we can arrange proper medical care.*

### **Notification of Contacts at the Danforth Center**

Based on their conversations with the individual, HR will initiate additional conversations with all people identified as close contacts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines close contact individuals as someone who was within approximately 6 feet of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time or having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on).

HR will inform those who were in close contact of the infected individual. They will keep the identity of the infected individual private unless the individual provides consent. The CDC recommends that these individuals limit public activities. HR will recommend that the close contacts self-quarantine and work from home until they are symptom free for 14 days from the day they had contact.

HR and Leadership will inform the appropriate people who have been in the Danforth Buildings for 14 days prior to the positive test.

### **Sterilization of Areas Visited by the Infected Individual**

Upon identification of the areas that were accessed by the individual with a positive exposure, the Danforth Facilities and Safety Departments will immediately close off affected areas to restrict access and post warning signs.

The Facilities Department will contact a third party cleaning company to schedule a complete sterilization of the affected areas in compliance with CDC guidelines. The Facilities Department has been in consistent contact with 4 different local companies that provide this service. At the time of development of this plan, all 4 of these companies are reporting that their backlog is growing as the number of affected individuals grows. Facilities will work to hire the firm that can respond the quickest to our need. After an area is sterilized, it should be available for use in 1-2 hours.

The CDC advises that if it has been more than 7 days since the person with confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.