GREENHOUSE VISITOR BIOSECURITY

As Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers, we are proud to uphold high standards of health and safety on our farms and facilities. Please take note of the following visitor guidelines to help maintain a healthy and safe environment for our plants, workers and you, our visitors. (Adapted from the University of Vermont)

GUIDELINES

STOP:
DO NOT visit more than one operation of the same commodity per day

BEFORE YOUR VISIT:

• Contact the farm in advance and make an appointment
• Inquire about the visitor process – including where to park and where to enter the farm
• Be aware of the important pests of the crops grown on the farm
• Visit farms with unique pest problems last
• Suggest a conference call or web meeting, where possible - site visits increase the risk of the spread of pests
• Check for and remove plant material and mud from your vehicle before your visit
DURING YOUR VISIT

• Follow facility-specific safety and biosecurity procedures
• Park in designated parking areas
• Do not touch plants or other production materials
• Wear clean footwear and clothing, and wear site-issued coveralls and/or boot covers as requested
• Wash your hands and use footbaths before entering and leaving the premises
• Avoid touching any machinery
• Do not explore the farm unattended

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

• Dispose of all waste (e.g. boot covers, coveralls) in appropriate containers as advised by the farm
• Wash your hands and use footbaths upon exiting the facility
• Check to see you and your vehicle are free of soil and plant debris
• Complete sign-out process
• Keep a record of your visit
• If you’ve encountered a farm with pest problems, phone ahead to your next client and discuss the situation while respecting privacy

Thank you!