



# HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

*Updated May 1, 2023*

The Acadia Community Farm Health and Safety Policy has been developed to ensure healthy and safe working conditions for the people involved in the operations and programs of the Acadia Farm and for the protection of Acadia property and the environment. This policy extends to all students, staff, faculty, volunteers, and visitors.

## Emergencies and Incidences

Report incidents to the appropriate contact depending on the type and severity of incident:

1. In emergency situations call 911 first, then notify Acadia Safety and Security 902-585-1103 if possible.
2. For urgent, but not emergency situations call Acadia Safety and Security 902-585-1103 and then staff contacts.
3. Incidences or injuries are to be reported to the Coordinator or Director.
4. Contact the Farm Coordinator or the Director of the Acadia Farm with any questions and concerns.

## Personal Responsibility

All those involved with the Acadia Community Farm are responsible for working in a healthy, safe, and respectful manner, and to take care that they do not place themselves, or others, Acadia property or the environment at any risk of harm.

## Hours of Operation

The Acadia Farm is open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (or dawn-dusk) between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>. Anyone visiting the farm after hours can be considered trespassing and reported to Safety and Security and/or RCMP.

## Health and Safety Guidelines

- Everyone is to take responsibility for their own personal health and safety while at the Farm. This includes knowing your physical limits and taking steps to protect yourself by wearing sunscreen and sun protective clothing and staying hydrated.
- Closed-toe shoes must always be worn. Shoes with sturdy soles, such as hiking boots, are recommended.
- Everyone is to take responsibility for the health and safety of others. This includes not endangering others and acting in a respectful and non-threatening manner.

- Everyone is to take responsibility for the health and safety of the environment. This includes picking up litter, respecting each other's garden plots, not interfering with animals and insects, and ensuring no damage to ecosystems.
- Acadia embraces equity, diversity, and inclusion. Recognizing that the Acadia Farm Community is diverse involving students, staff, faculty, visitors, retirees, seniors, families, children, and many others, we are committed to creating a safe space for all to enjoy.
- The Acadia Farm practices organic agriculture. Chemical pesticides and herbicides are not permitted.
- Respect areas designated for research and teaching. Do not interfere with any areas reserved for this purpose.
- Everyone is responsible for appropriate use and care of equipment and facilities. This includes using tools and equipment carefully and as intended, returning tools and equipment to the shed, locking up the shed after use and turning off the water.
- Water stored in containers at the farm is for watering plants only and not for drinking; please bring your own drinking water.
- No one is to work alone at the Acadia Farm and should always be accompanied by at least one other person. Persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- No fires are permitted under any circumstances as the farm is located adjacent to the Acadia Natural Gas Facility.
- Everyone is to abide by all relevant Acadia policies. For example, as part of Acadia University property, the Acadia Farm is a smoke/scent/idle-free site.
- Dogs are welcome provided they are friendly and non-threatening to others but must always remain in your control. Please pick-up after your dog and place droppings in garbage bins.
- While working on the Acadia Farm bring a mobile phone in case of emergencies.
- Report issues immediately as described above.

## COVID-19

To keep our campus and community safe, Acadia reserves the right to enact policies and practices that meet or exceed current government guidelines. Most COVID practices on campus have now been discontinued. However, we may reinstate some practices if necessary. They could include the following.

- Wear mask if working in close contact.
- Do not come to the farm, or campus, if you have symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Wash hands frequently and sanitize tools after use.
- Follow applicable provincial health guidelines.

If there are any questions or concerns about these policies, please contact us. The Acadia Community Farm is grateful for your cooperation and hopes that your time at the farm will be safe, enjoyable, and educational.

The Health and Safety policy is updated annually. Please check the website [farm.acadiau.ca](http://farm.acadiau.ca) for current version.

## Contacts

### **Farm Office (General Contact)**

52 University Avenue (DeWolfe House)  
Acadia University  
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6  
E: [farm@acadiau.ca](mailto:farm@acadiau.ca)

### **Director**

Jodie Noiles, Acadia Sustainability Coordinator  
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### **Farm Coordinator**

Sophie Knowles  
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### **Education Coordinator**

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