



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Botanica's Reopening and Guidelines Plan

- Information To Know Before You Visit -

WICHITA, Kan. – While Botanica, the Wichita Gardens has been closed to the public in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have remained focused on maintaining the Gardens so that when they reopen, they can offer the community a beautiful setting for relaxation.

Botanica is pleased to announce that they will reopen to the public beginning Tuesday, May 26 with the following safety precautions in place:

- Hours will be limited to 9 a.m.– 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday to ensure our custodial staff can maintain increased sanitization procedures. Starting June 14 Botanica will be open on Sundays from 1-5 p.m.
- All visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets or memberships online. The number of visitors in the Gardens will be limited at any given time to meet social distancing requirements.
- Visitors are encouraged to wear masks. Masks will be available for purchase for \$1. The City of Wichita is requiring masks for ages 3 and up at all its facilities.
- The Carousel, Train Garden, Chinese Garden and Gift Shop will open June 8.
- The Downing Children's Garden and Children's Library will remain closed until further notice.
- Onsite mobility devices, i.e., wheelchairs and scooters, will not be available.
- The Butterfly House will be open with one-way traffic to maintain social distancing, exiting through the cottage.
- Drinking fountains will not be available; however, the bottle filler portion of the water fountain in the Lobby hallway will be available for filling water bottles. Bottled water and sodas may be purchased at the front desk in the Administration Building Lobby.
- Select areas will be open for picnics. You can bring food and drink inside the garden. There will be designated areas to eat.
- Public restrooms will be open in the Lobby and Memorial Plaza.
- Staff will be wearing masks and social distancing. They are staying home if sick and will report any presumed COVID-19 cases to proper authorities.
- Visitors are encouraged to follow CDC recommendations and practice social distancing. Visit www.cdc.gov
- For the health of our guests, please follow these Social Distancing Guidelines:
 - If you are feeling sick, go home.

- Keep a distance of 6 feet from others, except those within your household.
- The City of Wichita is requiring masks for ages 3 and up on all its facilities.
- Cover your face with your elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands.

As the situation continues to evolve, leadership continues to meet to monitor new developments and ensure that precautionary measures are adequate. We look forward to sharing more details soon. Keep visiting our website to stay informed on what's happening in the garden and to learn about some of our new special events starting in July.

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Good things grow at Botanica, The Wichita Gardens. Found between two rivers, the 20-acre gardens are serene and pristine. Botanica is home to more than 4,000 species of plants, both native and new to the region. In the gardens and social spaces, Botanica hosts seasonal gatherings, private events, community meetings and educational encounters throughout the year. Visitors to Botanica feel the pulse of the Wichita community. Approximately 220,000 guests spend time at Botanica annually. More than 300 volunteers lend their talents and treasures each year in the garden--giving approximately 40,000 hours in tasks ranging from gardening to event admissions and sitting on the board of directors. Botanica is a vibrant anchor in Wichita's Museum District. It first opened in 1987 with four gardens and a horticulture library. Today, visitors enjoy the Downing Children's Garden, Chinese Garden of Friendship, Butterfly House, the Khicha Family Carousel inside Koch Carousel Gardens and the ever-changing, seasonal displays that ensure every experience at Botanica is magical and unique.