

Montrose Botanic Gardens
Volunteer Weed Warrior Safety Guidelines

1. All volunteer Weed Warriors must **complete an Emergency Contact Form**, including information on any allergies or health conditions that might become an issue during time spent in the Gardens. Volunteers should keep their existing form updated, as needed.
2. Dress in **appropriate attire** for the job and weather. Closed-toe, sturdy footwear is required and sunscreen, sunglasses and hats with brims are strongly encouraged for any volunteer spending time outdoors. Check the toolshed for extra gear if you've forgotten an important item, as well as the Lost and Found if you've misplaced one.
3. Anyone working with tools – especially power tools -- must use appropriate **personal protective equipment (PPE)**, such as: gloves, goggles/eyeglasses, long sleeved shirts and/or pants, earmuffs or earplugs. For example, operation of the brush hog requires eye protection and a dust mask. PPE is available in the BOB.
4. **Stay hydrated.** Volunteers are encouraged to keep personal water bottles in their gear and/or take advantage of the beverages provided at the Shavano Shelter during break.
5. Volunteers in the Gardens **should not work in isolation.** Always maintain visual and verbal contact with at least one other volunteer in case an emergency arises.
6. **Report any injury, accident or sickness** immediately to a Weed Warrior team leader, and seek medical care if needed. In the event of an emergency, call 911.
7. **Report any unsafe conditions or people engaging in unsafe behavior** immediately to a Weed Warrior team leader, discontinuing work until the situation is resolved.