



# Outdoor Visitation Policy for the Lyngblomsten Care Center

**Effective Date:** 06/18/2020

## **Background:**

Since early March, Lyngblomsten has restricted visitors on its campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic (the exception being for end-of-life compassionate care visits).

On June 18, the Minnesota Department of Health released guidelines for how long-term care facilities can host in-person, outdoor visits between residents/tenants and their family/partner/close friend. Lyngblomsten has reviewed these guidelines and developed an Outdoor Visitation Policy for our campus community.

Our chief objectives continue to be (1) keeping our residents safe and healthy and (2) preventing the introduction of the virus from outside visitors to our campus. With everyone's cooperation, we believe together we can achieve these objectives while also allowing residents and their loved ones the much-needed opportunity to visit in person (albeit from a distance).

There will be a separate (but similar) policy created for housing tenants.

## **Policy Summary:**

**Effective 6/18/20, Lyngblomsten is allowing outdoor, in-person visits to occur between residents and loved ones (family/partner/close friend), provided visitors follow the framework for visits** (outlined on page 2 of this policy document).

## **Definitions:**

- **Outdoor Visit:** An in-person, socially distanced visit where resident and their loved ones gather at a scheduled time in the designated outdoor areas of the Lyngblomsten campus.
- **Resident:** An individual who lives in the Lyngblomsten Care Center (1415 Almond Avenue).
- **Tenant:** An older adult who lives in one of our two apartment buildings: the Lyngblomsten Apartments (1455 Almond Avenue) or The Heritage at Lyngblomsten (1440 Midway Parkway).
- **Visitor:** A family member, partner, or friend of a Lyngblomsten resident.

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**Framework for Care Center Visits:**

1. Visits must be prescheduled (see “Scheduling a Visit” below) and are limited to 25 minutes.
2. Visits must take place in a designated location.
3. Prospective visitors who are sick, who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are still exhibiting symptoms, or who in the previous 14 days have had contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 may NOT participate in an outdoor visit. They must stay at home until their doctor has lifted all restrictions.
4. Residents and family members MUST wear facemasks during the entire visit.
5. Residents and family members MUST follow social distancing guidelines during the entire visit (i.e., remaining 6 feet away from one another and others who may be outside at the same time). Sorry, we are not able to allow physical signs of affection (e.g., hugging, holding hands, etc.) to occur.
6. When visitors arrive, they will be screened outside by staff for symptoms of COVID-19. This will include: taking their temperature, checking their blood oxygen level using a non-invasive pulse oximeter, and asking a series of health screening questions. Any visitor who does not pass the screening will not be able to participate.
7. At the beginning and end of the visit, visitors must clean their hands using hand sanitizer, which will be available at the visiting locations.
8. Visitors may bring up to 2 pets, which may not be held or touched by residents.
9. Each resident will be allowed up to 1 outdoor visit per week.
10. No more than four (4) visitors may attend an outdoor visit at one time. (These 4 are not the only individuals who may ever participate in an outdoor visit.) Visitors may be from multiple family units, and EVERY visitor must meet the screening protocols noted in Points 3 and 6 above to participate.
11. A staff member will accompany a resident during the visit. The staff member will stand away at a distance to allow for privacy.
12. Outdoor visits for care center residents will take place at one of two locations: the “island park” outside the care center main entrance and the gazebo near the entrance to the Newman-Benson Chapel.
13. In the event of inclement weather, staff will work with residents and their loved ones to reschedule a date/time.
14. Current COVID-19 positive residents, residents with COVID-19 signs or symptoms, and residents in a 14-day quarantine or observation period are not eligible for outside visits.

**Visitors who do not adhere to these guidelines will be asked by staff to leave campus and/or to not participate in future outdoor visits.**

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**Scheduling a Visit:**

Visits will be available\* on weekdays at the following times: 9 AM–7:30 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 AM–4:30 PM on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. At this time, we are not scheduling visits on Saturdays or Sundays.

**To schedule a visit**, sign up online at SignUpGenius using the links below.

- If your resident lives on 2nd floor or in the Ostrand Neighborhood (fourth floor), click here (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays).
- If your resident lives on 3rd floor, click here (Mondays and Wednesdays).
- If your resident lives on any floor, click here (Fridays).
- If your resident lives in the Stanford Neighborhood (fourth floor), contact Emma Flotterud at [eflotterud@lyngblomsten.org](mailto:eflotterud@lyngblomsten.org) to schedule a date/time.

If you do not have access to the internet, contact Shelli Beck, Director of Volunteer Services, at (651) 414-5297 or [sbeck@lyngblomsten.org](mailto:sbeck@lyngblomsten.org) to schedule a time.

Visits must be scheduled by 3 PM the day before the desired date/time and can be scheduled as many days in advance as desired.

Please treat your visit as an appointment by arriving on time and calling in advance if you need to cancel. We may not be able to accommodate your visit if you arrive late, as there may be other residents scheduled for visits immediately after you and/or staff may not be available later.

**\*Philosophy for Scheduling Visits:**

Our philosophy when scheduling visits is to ensure as many residents as possible are able to visit with their family members given the resources we have available (i.e., time, staff, meeting spaces). We are committed to ensuring residents/tenants and their families are able to interact regularly with one another during the pandemic, and we are implementing new policies to facilitate visits. Please know that we may not be able to accommodate your date/time preference for a visit and/or we may not be able to schedule a visit for you on a particular week.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience as we seek to accommodate the needs of approximately 150 residents and their families.

Window visits are still available. See separate “Window Visitation Policy” for more details.