

## **PGMS® COVID-19 – How Members Have Modified Operations**

### **Hospitals**

#### Member Response 1

- Grounds are considered essential staff for the hospital, with staff tasked with: setting up drive through tents; ED tents; mobile structures at off site clinics; providing clean water; dirty water disposal; temporary sinks; monitoring and swapping out LP tanks for portable heaters; RED bag waste collection/processing (staff are trained in this); Chem Clave shredder (steam sterilization process); moving hospital beds and furniture; creating new hospital space for Negative Air; some grounds work in between other requests; cleaning logs for vehicles and breakrooms; sanitizing all handrails in garages, lobbies, and elevators; and pressure washing building entrances.

#### Member Response 2

- Essential services for hospital grounds staff are limited to trash rounds, parking lot sweep, and snow removal. Employees are maintaining social distancing and operating the same equipment daily. The shelter-in-place order by the governor has ceased spring clean-up and mulch installation. Non-clinical employees have the option to be furloughed or to use vacation for time-off. All non-mission critical projects are on hold. Project managers have been given the option to be furloughed or to work from home but use vacation time for hours that are not worked.

### **University/College (Public)**

#### Member Response 1

- Grounds are considered essential staff and we have two people maximum working a day, with staff working a total of 2 days per week. Campus has been divided into two (2) major zones<sup>®</sup> based on Landscape Management Plan and each crew member is responsible for one of the two zones. Priorities include: hazard patrol; downed trees/branches; fire hazards; overflowing storm drains/swales; debris cleanup on turf areas and beds; garage cleanup; mowing and edging. We maintain social distancing by: using our assigned vehicle only; wearing gloves; disinfecting all touched surfaces at the end of shifts; maintain constant 2-way radio contact with assigned partner; do not take on tasks that require more than one person; in case of snow, RED levels only; be ready to help when needed. Non-essentials that are on hold: Dethatching, aerating, fertilizing, overseeding, irrigation, and contracted work (street cleaning, asphalt repair, large landscape projects).

#### Member Response 2

- Skeleton crew operating for essential grounds duties (staff reduced 70%). Those not scheduled to work have the choice of: using vacation, using sick leave, or completing online training through the university and be compensated for the hours trained.

### Member Response 3

- Essential employees only, with staff on rotational shifts. Half report for 10 hours shifts on Monday/Tuesday, and the other half report for 10 hour shifts on Thursday/Friday. Everyone is off on Wednesday. Safety Priorities: cleaning stations with EPA approved disinfectants for tools and vehicles, and social distancing at time clock, break time/lunch, and no vehicle sharing.

### University/College (Private)

#### Member Response 1

- Skeleton crew to inspect buildings and perform perimeter trash clean up. Union members are paid for a 40 hour work week but covering a total of 8 hours a week in shift work (3 shifts: 8am – 4 pm, 4 pm – 12am, 12am – 8am). The grounds are deteriorating with high grass and weeds.

#### Member Response 2

- Skeleton crew (600+ facilities employees to 100). Landscaping services crews are split in thirds, working on rotations every third day and one person per vehicle. Employees remain on a paid status (also on call) and work a 7am -3:30pm work day. Supervisors/Superintendents work from home and rotate on site every third day. We currently have a spending freeze on future repairs. Prep work completed: applied growth regulators to turf/shrubs to slow down shoot growth; sprayed out all rye grass in sports fields to maintain height/eliminate cutting routine; sprayed open mulch areas with pre/post emergence to eliminate weeds and have contacted customers that they will keep the University clean and safe first, and then maintenance.

#### Member Response 3

- We have moved to a two (2) person crew per day, with the crew rotating so each person will cover one day each week and half. We've cancelled all mulching and summer annual installations and only have six (6) people to monitor the entire campus.

### Arboretum

#### Member Response 1

- Essential staff/skeleton crew on staggered time for social distancing with a maximum of two (2) horticulture staff per day who make rounds and ensure greenhouses and new plantings are watered. We have one (1) facilities staff member per day who check on the buildings. All staff (remote or not) are being paid, which includes temporary part-time employees.