

UC ANR field days, tours and educational events can be a useful resource to engage the community and share information with constituents. During the earlier stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, UC ANR researchers and advisors demonstrated ingenuity in holding field days virtually and educating the community in innovative ways. Currently, based upon updated health and safety guidance, field days and other research-related events can resume in-person, as long as the persons planning and hosting the event are able to maintain safety protocols and standards consistent with the following measures:

**Key safety measures for planning a field day:**

- Whenever possible, hold field day outdoors, allowing fresh air and space for distancing.
- Ensure UC ANR employees who are attending the event are taking the ANR daily clearance to work survey.
- Participants must be advised to stay home if they have [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.  
*Common symptoms include: Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea.*
- Masks are generally not required when outdoors.
- Indoor mask requirements will depend on local health orders and current COVID-19 transmission rates. Participants or employees who are not vaccinated are required to wear masks when indoors. Participants who are fully vaccinated may also be required to wear masks during times of increased COVID-19 transmission. See the [UC ANR Mask Protocol](#).
- Participants will not be asked if they are vaccinated. Signs must be posted informing persons entering indoor facilities that masks are required for persons who are not vaccinated. Entering an indoor space without a mask will be considered self-attestation that a person is vaccinated.
- Masks will be made available.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available or handwashing stations.
- Limit sharing or touching of equipment or samples – or disinfect between contacts.
- Paper handouts should be minimized and provided electronically in advance or following the event. If paper handouts are used, arrange for one person to pass out handouts to limit contact
- Pre-register for the field day and/or use a sign-in so you know who is present if needed for contact tracing. Sign-in sheets or attendance can be assigned to be completed by one staff/volunteer member to limit contact.
- Communicate safety expectations in advance, and/or post on site.
- Modify communications as necessary for your activity.

The following note summarizes the standard safety measures encouraged throughout UC ANR during the COVID-19 pandemic: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/safety/files/326442.pdf>

The following signs can be used to reinforce safety measures:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/safety/files/352620.pdf> and <https://ucanr.edu/sites/safety/files/352614.pdf>

**Additional Considerations:**

Based upon the size or layout of the event, consider using any of the following steps to improve safety:

- Divide the day into morning and afternoon sessions to keep group sizes small
- Group participants into cohorts or have a rotation among stations for presenting different information and limit interactions between groups
- Avoid food or beverage, particularly pot-luck or shared utensils. If food or beverage is required, provide single use, non-shared, or boxed items
- Participants can be sent UC ANR COVID-19 Awareness/Mitigation Standards notes or similar safety information ahead of the field day
- Participants can be sent the UC ANR [Visitor Clearance Survey](#) or provided similar symptom assessment/awareness information