



Reminder: Certification Monitoring Visits have been delayed until July due to COVID-19. Auditors will be reaching out to growers two weeks prior to monitoring visit. Please note that all auditors will be taking proper precautions including but not limited to wearing PPE, taking temperatures daily, proper social distancing, and sanitizing of devices. We also ask that growers maintain proper social distancing and notify the auditor if someone on your operation is ill. All auditors will be following CDC, state, federal, and local guidelines pertaining to COVID-19.

Don't forget to complete your self-assessment prior to your visit!

If you have questions call GAPC at 865-622-4606.

This week: Housing, Sanitation and Transportation

1. Housing

If the grower provides housing directly to workers, the grower must:

- Ensure that the facility complies with all federal and state safety and health standards, including up-to-date certification from DOL (US-based) or other appropriate governmental agencies. **(The auditor will request to see the housing inspection)**
- Inspect housing prior to occupancy and at mid-season, using the OSHA Housing Safety and Health Checklist provided in the [GAP Labor Management Resource Guide](#) (Additional Standard)
- Post or present to each worker, in their native language a statement of the terms and conditions of occupancy. **(The auditor will request to see the terms and conditions)**

Terms and Conditions must include:

1. Name, address and contact information of the individual in charge of the housing
2. Emergency contact information
3. Physical address and mailing address of the housing facility
4. Who may live at the housing facility
5. Charges to be made for housing
6. Meals to be provided and any associated cost for them
7. Charges for utilities
8. Any other charges or conditions of occupancy

If the grower uses a Farm Labor Contractor (FLC) and the FLC houses workers: (1) the FLC must be authorized to house the workers (auditor will check FLC registration) and (2) grower must still have a copy of housing inspections for all housing utilized. **(The auditor will request to see the housing inspection)**

2. Sanitation

Standards in this section apply to ALL farming operations including those that only have immediate family farm labor, if applicable. Auditors will visually inspect and verify in worker interviews that workers have access to the following:

Critical Standards:

- Cool, potable water available during work hours
- Clean and sanitary bathroom facilities during work hours
- Hand washing facilities with soap at close proximity to bathrooms
- Rest breaks during the day, including lunch, without compromising their ability to earn wages
- Grower operations with eleven (11) or more workers, employed during the past twelve months, at any one time, engaged in hand-labor operations must provide clean and sanitary bathroom facilities during work hours and hand washing facilities with soap at close proximity within a quarter-mile walking distance from worker's place of work in the field. Toilet and handwashing facilities are not required within a quarter mile for workers who perform field work for a period of three (3) hours or less (including transportation time to and from the field) during the day. **NEW in 2020: Grower must provide proof of purchase or rental of sanitary bathroom and handwashing facilities.**

3. Transportation

If transportation is provided, growers must ensure that vehicles meet legally required safety standards and that drivers are properly insured and licensed. Vehicles must be inspected when required by law and person supplying the transportation must maintain inspection records.

- Are drivers properly insured and licensed? **(Auditor will ask to see insurance and licenses when applicable)**
- Is the transport vehicle inspected to ensure it is safe?
- Are the vehicles used to transport workers appear in good condition (i.e. safe to drive)?
- Do you have inspection records for the transport vehicle? **(Auditor will ask to see inspection records. If there are no inspections required by law in grower's state, grower can show their own records that demonstrate they inspect the vehicle for safety hazards)**
 - Vehicle Inspection Log
If vehicles are not required to have federal or state inspections, the vehicle inspection log should be used to routinely check vehicles that are transporting workers. The vehicle inspection log can be completed by the grower and does not require a professional to complete. The vehicle inspection log can be found on pages 2-4 in Tab 9 – Housing, Sanitation, and Transportation in your [2020 GAP Records](#).

COVID-19 Resources

GAPC has compiled resources in English and Spanish to help inform, educate, and train growers, workers, and family members on topics related to COVID-19. The resource pages provide information for planning, educating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 as well as H2-A Visa concerns and the Families First Coronavirus Reponse Act (FFCRA). Includes: training videos, posters, fact sheets, FAQ's, webinars and links to other resources. For information on a state by state level, visit the COVID-19 Resource Page by State.



[Visit COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

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info@gapconnections.com | 865.622.4606 | 2450 EJ Chapman Drive Knoxville TN 37996

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