**EVENT CANCELLATION ADVISORY**

Chicago Flower & Garden Show Cancels Event at Navy Pier Due to Coronavirus Concerns

*March 2020*

It is with great sadness that the Chicago Flower & Garden Show is canceling this year’s event. The World Health Organization has declared COVID-19, the Coronavirus, to be a global pandemic. The City of Chicago has canceled the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The City's health officials are encouraging people to avoid large groups at indoor events. We cannot ignore the advice of city leaders or the global health community. It would be irresponsible and dangerous. The risk to our most vulnerable populations is real.

We are the proud stewards of a tradition that dates back more than a century. Every spring is ushered in with the arrival of the Chicago Flower & Garden Show. It is the harbinger of spring, brighter days, and a renewal of life. Each year the team works incredibly hard to make sure the show is a safe, family-friendly event. Nothing is more important than the safety of our visitors and guests.

This is not an easy decision or one taken lightly. Like other canceled events in recent days, there will be an adverse impact on many people. The hardship this decision will create for our valued vendors, sponsors, and visitors is the sad reality of what is happening in the world. We are heeding Mayor Lightfoot's call to come together as a city and do all we can to protect one another.

This year's spring may arrive a little differently, under more challenging circumstances. Next year we will be back to blossom into spring the right way!

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