



Ohio Construction Industry Best Practices COVID-19 Health & Sanitation Guidelines

ABC will closely monitor government policy changes, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and OSHA guidelines, government mandates, and public health advancements and will continue to make changes as necessary or appropriate to our protocols and procedures.

ABC Best Practice Health and Sanitation Guidelines for Contractors

I. **Employee & Customer Health**

The health and safety of employees and customers is the number one priority. It is our responsibility to think of not only ourselves but each other as well. If you feel the urge coming to cough or sneeze, cover your mouth with a tissue or the inside of elbow. Throw the tissue in the trash, immediately clean hands. Offices and worksites should work to minimize guests. Guests who are permitted on site will be encouraged to wear face coverings. 6ft social distancing shall be maintained and enforced during the pandemic when possible and when it does not compromise safety. When six feet of separation cannot be maintained, installation of barriers should be considered unless such barriers create safety hazards or make it functionally and practically impossible to perform an essential task.

Temperature Taking. All employees should be expected to report to work healthy. If unwell, do not report and/or take your temperature at home. If you have a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, do not report. Employees must perform a [daily symptom check](#). If >100, you will be sent home. Do not return until you have gone 72 hours without fever without medication.

Physical Distancing. Physical distancing is required, when it does not compromise safety. Employees must be instructed to maintain a six foot apart while working, standing in lines or moving around a facility.

Use of Face coverings. See policy recommendations below for **construction worksites***. For general office areas, masks or face coverings should be worn in all general areas. Mask should be either store bought masks or hand-made according to [CDC guidelines](#). Masks are not required when alone in your office or cubical; but should be worn if you accept a visitor into your space or move to a meeting room. Employees should be instructed not to touch their faces.

Travel. – If possible, limit occupancy to one employee per vehicle. If not possible, employees should wear masks when travelling together in a vehicle.

Hand Sanitizer. Hand sanitizer, if available, will be placed at entrances, reception areas and lobbies, meeting and common spaces. CDC recommends the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers with greater than **60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol** as the preferred form of hand hygiene.

Signage. Signage should be posted reminding staff and guests of the proper way to wear, handle and dispose masks, use gloves, wash hands, sneeze and to avoid touching their faces.

Staff & Member Health Concerns

Employees who have symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) should notify their supervisor and stay home.

Sick employees should follow [CDC-recommended steps](#)². Employees who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should notify their supervisor and follow [CDC recommended precautions](#)⁴.

Contact your immediate supervisor if you notice a coworker or member with a cough, shortness of breath, or other known symptoms of COVID-19.

Case Notification. If a contractor is alerted to a presumptive case of COVID-19 at the facility, staff will follow the appropriate actions recommended by the CDC.

II. Employee's Responsibilities

Employees are vital for an effective health and sanitation program.

Hand Washing. Correct hygiene and frequent handwashing with soap is vital to help combat the spread of virus. All employees should be instructed to wash their hands, or use sanitizer when a sink is not available, throughout the day (no less than 1-2x morning and 1-2x afternoon) and after any of the following activities: using the restroom, sneezing, touching the face, blowing the nose, cleaning, sweeping, mopping, eating, drinking, entering and leaving class and meeting rooms, after arriving and leaving the office.

COVID-19 Training. All employees will be advised to watch and read COVID-19 safety and sanitation protocols.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Appropriate PPE will be worn by all based on their role and responsibilities and in adherence to state or local regulations and guidance.

III. How to Clean and Disinfect

Definitions

Cleaning refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. It does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.

Disinfecting refers to using the most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective to kill germs on surfaces. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-expands-covid-19-disinfectant-list>.

Hard (Non-porous) Surfaces

Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. If reusable gloves are used, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other purposes. Consult the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfection products used. [Clean hands](#) immediately after gloves are removed.

Soft (Porous) Surfaces

For soft surfaces such as carpeted floors, remove visible contamination with a vacuum cleaner. Spray with Lysol disinfectant.

Electronics

For electronics such as cell phones, tablets, touch screens, remote controls, and keyboards, remove visible contamination, if present.

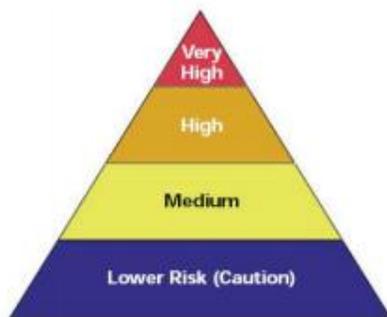
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.
- Consider use of wipeable covers or clear plastic bags for electronics.
- If no manufacturer guidance is available, consider the use of alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol to disinfect touch screens. Dry surfaces thoroughly to avoid pooling of liquids and destruction of equipment.

***Recommended Use of Masks/Face Coverings/Plastic Shields for Construction Employees on Job Sites**

1. **Masks should be provided for all employees or employees should be required to obtain a mask for their own use and protection**
2. **Masks should be required to be worn according to the guidelines below based upon OSHA qualified working conditions.**
3. **Masks shall not be required if the employee has a medical excuse to not use**
4. **Masks shall not be required if the use of the mask is clearly adding a hazard to the construction task (i.e. a mask should not be required under a welding helmet where sparks could ignite the mask)**
5. **Masks shall not be required for workers working or driving alone.**
6. **Masks shall not be required where visual/verbal commands are required to direct work in progress safely (ie. crane work, sub surface pipe installation, etc.)**

Classifying Worker Exposure to SARS-CoV-2

**Occupational Risk Pyramid
for COVID-19**



Worker risk of occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, during an outbreak may vary from very high to high, medium, or lower (caution) risk. The level of risk depends in part on the industry type, need for contact within 6 feet of people known to be, or suspected of being, infected with SARS-CoV-2, or requirement for repeated or extended contact with persons known to be, or suspected of being, infected with SARS-CoV-2. To help employers determine appropriate precautions, OSHA has divided job tasks into four risk exposure levels: very high, high, medium, and lower risk. The Occupational Risk Pyramid shows the four exposure risk levels in the shape of a pyramid to represent probable distribution of risk. Most American workers will likely fall in the lower exposure risk (caution) or medium exposure risk levels.

Lower Exposure Risk (Caution)

– Masks not required, recommended if 6ft distance cannot be maintained

Lower exposure risk (caution) jobs are those that do not require contact with people known to be, or suspected of being, infected with SARS-CoV-2 nor frequent close contact with (i.e., within 6 feet of) the general public. Workers in this category have minimal occupational contact with the public and other coworkers. A “closed and secured” job site falls within this category, the site is just employees who’ve been screened.

Medium Exposure Risk (Elevated Caution)

– Masks required

Medium exposure risk jobs include those that require frequent and/or close contact with (i.e., within 6 feet of) people who may be infected with SARS-CoV-2, but who are not known or suspected COVID-19 patients (i.e. customer locations, sites with frequent guests, members of the general public).

High Exposure Risk and Very High Exposure Risk

– N95 Certified and Maintained Masks required

High exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19. This would include construction sites where workers may encounter: ■ Healthcare delivery and support staff (e.g., doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff who must enter patients' rooms) exposed to known or suspected COVID-19 patients. (Note: when such workers perform aerosol-generating procedures, their exposure risk level becomes very high.) ■ Medical transport workers (e.g., ambulance vehicle operators) moving known or suspected COVID-19 patients in enclosed vehicles. ■ Mortuary workers involved in preparing (e.g., for burial or cremation) the bodies of people who are known to have, or suspected of having, COVID-19 at the time of their death.

Very high exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19. This would include construction sites where workers may encounter: ■ Healthcare workers (e.g., doctors, nurses, dentists, paramedics, emergency medical technicians) performing aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., intubation, cough induction procedures, bronchoscopies, some dental procedures and exams, or invasive specimen collection) on known or suspected COVID-19 patients. ■ Healthcare or laboratory personnel collecting or handling specimens from known or suspected COVID-19 patients (e.g., manipulating cultures from known or suspected COVID-19 patients). ■ Morgue workers performing autopsies, which generally involve aerosol-generating procedures, on the bodies of people who are known to have, or suspected of having, COVID-19 at the time of their death.

Resources:

Ohio Department of Health, 4/29/2020:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/news-releases-news-you-can-use/ppe-delivery-employee-face-covering-exceptions>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016).

Cleaning & Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces.

<https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/faqs/cleaning-disinfecting-environmental-surfaces.html>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). (2020). *List N:*

Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2.

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA).

(2020). *Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19.*

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>

Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA).

(1998). *Respiratory Protection Standard 1910.134.*

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134>

World Health Organization (WHO). (2020). *Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) technical guidance: Infection prevention and control / WASH.*

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/infection-prevention-and-control>