



Public and Private Facilities Cleaning and Disinfection Guidance

Updated May 10, 2021

This guidance provides cleaning and disinfection requirements for all non-medical facilities to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Procedures and supplies must be in place to encourage routine cleaning and disinfection and proper hand hygiene. All public and private facility owners, operators, and other individuals must incorporate these procedures into facility protocols along with any additional New York State industry specific requirements (such as forward.ny.gov or other New York State guidelines).

Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures

Clean Before Using Disinfectants

- Soiled areas must first be cleaned to ensure the effectiveness of the disinfectant product. Clean surfaces using water and soap or detergent to reduce soil and debris.
- Always follow the cleaning and disinfection product label instructions for safe and effective use.
- All New York State agencies and authorities must use green cleaning products. For additional information on the use of green cleaning products, see the [Policies, Guidelines, and Report](#) section of NY's Green Cleaning Program website.

Disinfection

- Disinfectants used in NYS must be registered with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. NYS registered disinfectants identified as effective against SARS-CoV-2 virus (the virus that causes COVID-19) can be found on this [list of products](#) page. This list corresponds to those identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Follow product label instructions for proper use and handling including use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Follow label instructions when using disinfectants to ensure the target virus is effectively killed on the type of surface you are treating. Pay attention to the *contact time* disinfectants should be left on surfaces to be effective (including disinfecting wipes). Carefully follow instructions for the dilution of concentrated products to ensure effective use.
- Disinfectant products can only be applied using a labeled application method.
- Use products in well ventilated areas.
- Do not mix disinfecting products. Mixing different products can produce toxic fumes.
- If commercial products are unavailable that are effective against SARS-CoV-2, you may use products registered as effective against rhinovirus or a household bleach solution (approximately 1 tablespoon of household liquid bleach in 1 quart of water) made fresh daily.

Disposal and Hand Hygiene

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds immediately after cleaning or removing any personal protective equipment recommended for use on the product label. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly soiled.
- Place any used gloves and other disposable items in a bag that can be tied closed before disposing of them with other waste.

Other Considerations

- Clean and disinfect, or replace, cleaning tools and supplies after use.
- Wear a face covering as required by all COVID-19 mandates and any additional personal protective equipment (PPE) for cleaning and disinfection.
- Post [Stop the Spread](#) signage and provide hand sanitizer near all shared equipment/workstations to promote hand hygiene.
- Follow guidelines for ventilation and HVAC equipment from any applicable industry-specific requirements issued by New York State (e.g., forward.ny.gov or other New York State agency guidance).
- Application of a disinfectant must be done in accordance with the product label. This label will include specific instructions on the methods for how to apply the product. If an application method (e.g., fogger, electrostatic sprayer) is not included on the product label, that product cannot be applied using that application device.
- Facilities using additional surface disinfection technologies must operate the equipment in a manner that does not cause a public health or safety hazard and must follow all health and safety requirements and procedures identified by the manufacturer, and federal authorities. These must not be a substitute for standard cleaning and disinfection practices.

Cleaning and Disinfection Frequency

- All facilities must maintain routine cleaning and disinfection schedules and procedures. Time should be allocated for individuals to routinely clean and disinfect.
- COVID-19 cleaning and disinfection must occur in addition to routine cleaning and disinfection on a schedule based on an area's risk, usage, and the number of people in contact with surfaces.
- Facilities must identify all high-risk areas, frequently touched surfaces, and shared equipment/workstations that can be reservoirs for germs that can be transmitted to people through contact with these surfaces.
- Facilities must include appropriate high-risk areas, frequently touched surfaces, and shared workstations/equipment identified in applicable industry-specific requirements issued by New York State (such as forward.ny.gov or other New York State agency guidance).

High Risk Areas and Frequently Touched Surfaces

High risk areas and frequently touched surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected at least twice daily, or more frequently as specified in any industry-specific requirements issued by New York State.

Examples of High-Risk Areas

- First aid stations/health offices
- Restrooms
- Dining areas and kitchens
- High-traffic hallways and entrances/exits
- Customer service areas/cashier stations
- Employee lounges and customer waiting areas

Examples of Frequently Touched Surfaces

- Desks and chairs
- Counters, tables and chairs
- Door handles, push plates and handrails
- Kitchen and bathroom fixtures
- Appliances
- Light switches

Shared Equipment/Workstations

- All shared equipment/workstations must be cleaned and disinfected between uses. Consider the use of plastic covers that can be more easily be cleaned and disinfected or replaced between use for electronics and other difficult to clean and disinfect equipment.
- All shared areas should provide hand hygiene stations with instructions for use.

Examples of Shared Equipment/Workstations

- Cots/health office areas
- Stocking equipment
- Vehicles
- Remote controls
- Shared electronics (phones, tablets, retail scanners, printers, keyboards and mice)
- Shopping carts/baskets
- Exercise equipment
- Shared workstations

Cleaning and Disinfecting After Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19

Restrict access to any area where someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 was present until the area is cleaned and disinfected and refer to [CDC guidelines](#) for the cleaning and disinfection procedure. Disinfectants used in NYS must be registered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. NYS registered disinfectants identified as effective against SARS-CoV-2 virus (the virus that causes COVID-19) can be found on this [list of products](#). Facility operators do not necessarily need to close operations, if they can close off the affected areas.

More Information

- [New York State Industry Guidance](#)
- [New York State Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)