

# Recommended Practices for Construction Jobsites



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## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

*Updated: March 27, 2020*

- **Gloves:** Gloves should be worn at all times while on jobsites and appropriate to the tasks performed. If gloves are not typically required for the task, the use of latex gloves is appropriate to utilize to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- **Eye protection:** Eye protection should be worn all times while on site.
- The CDC is currently not recommending that healthy people wear face masks. The government is asking all construction companies to donate N95 face masks to local hospitals and forego future orders for the time being. Contractors should continue to provide and direct employees to wear face masks if required by the work.

## Sanitation and Cleanliness:

- Promote frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds. Employers should also provide hand sanitizer when hand washing facilities are not available. Refer to CDC guideline: [When and How to Wash Your Hands](#).
  - » All workers should wash hands often, especially before eating, smoking, or drinking, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Workers should refrain from touching their face.
  - » All sites should have handwashing stations readily available to all workers onsite. If you have a large site, get a handwashing station from your portable job site toilet provider.
  - » Providing hand sanitizer is acceptable in the interim between availability of handwashing facilities.
  - » All workers should wash hands before and after entering any unit, as well as regularly and periodically throughout the day.
  - » Some jobsites may have access to hot water for handwashing. If this is an option, please get permission from the facility owner to use their sink and disinfect frequently.
  - » If on a remote project, fill an Igloo-type water cooler with water( hotwater, if available) and label “handwashing only.” This is a good option for vehicles as well. The CDC has [posters](#) and [fact sheets](#) available for posting.
  - » Subcontractor foremen and project managers shall communicate with their general contractor as to what steps the general contractor is taking to provide adequate sanitary/handwashing facilities on the project.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces within the workplace multiple times each day.
- Refer to CDC guideline: [Clean & Disinfect](#).
  - » Disinfectant wipes should be available and used to wipe down any surfaces (doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, desks) that are commonly touched periodically each day.
  - » Portable jobsite toilets should be cleaned by the leasing company at least twice per week (disinfected on the inside). Double check that hand sanitizer dispensers are filled—if not, fill them. Frequently touched items (i.e., door pulls and toilet seats) should be disinfected frequently, ideally after each use.
  - » Jobsite offices/trailers and break/lunchrooms must be cleaned at least twice per day.
  - » Employees performing cleaning will be issued proper PPE, such as nitrile gloves and eye or face protection as needed.

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- Maintain Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) of all disinfectants on site.
  - » Employers should provide tissues and encourage employees to cover their noses and mouths with a tissue (or elbow or shoulder if a tissue is not available) when coughing or sneezing. Wash your hands after each time you cough, sneeze, or blow your nose, and any time before touching your face or food. Refer to CDC guideline: [Coughing & Sneezing](#).
- Any trash from the trailers or the jobsite should be changed frequently by someone wearing gloves. After changing the trash, the employee should throw the gloves away and wash their hands.

## **Job Site Visitors:**

- Restrict the number of visitors to the job site, including the trailer or office.
- All visitors should be screened in advance. If the visitor can answer “yes” to any of the following questions (without identifying which question applies), the visitor will not be permitted to access the facility.
  - » Have you been asked to self-quarantine since December 2019?
  - » Have you been in close contact with any person(s) who has been asked to self-quarantine since December 2019?
  - » Have you experienced an onset of any illness-related symptoms, such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath?
  - » Have you traveled outside of North America in the past 14 days?
  - » Have you been in close contact with any person(s) who have traveled outside of North America in the last 14 days?
  - » Have you been in close contact with any person(s) who has been diagnosed with COVID-19?

## **Workers Entering Occupied Buildings and Homes:**

Many contractors and service technicians perform construction and maintenance activities within occupied homes, office buildings, and other establishments. Although these are not large job sites, these work locations present their own unique hazards with regards to COVID-19 exposures. Plumbers, electricians, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) technicians are examples of these types of workers. All such workers should evaluate the specific hazards when determining best practices related to COVID-19.

- Require the customer to clean and sanitize the work area prior to the workers’ arrival on site.
- Technicians should sanitize the work areas themselves upon arrival, throughout the workday, and immediately before departure. Refer to CDC guideline: [Clean & Disinfect](#).
- Require customers to keep household pets away from work area.
- Ask that occupants keep a personal distance of 10 feet at minimum.
- Do not accept payments on site (no cash or checks exchanged). Require electronic payments over the phone or online.
- Workers should wash hands immediately before starting and after completing the work. Refer to CDC guideline: [When and How to Wash Your Hands](#).