

**The health and safety of our policyholders and their employees is our top priority, and we continue to monitor changing conditions regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in coordination with local, state and national officials, with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).**

As such, we've provided the following recommendations as construction businesses begin to return to the physical workplace.

### **EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- ▶ Conduct daily toolbox talks, with respect to maintaining 6-foot spacing between people at all times, and provide instructions regarding the information provided below.
- ▶ Confirm that all crew members are feeling well and don't have sick family members at home.
- ▶ Perform a risk assessment of the jobsite.
- ▶ Educate workers about general precautions and regularly communicate plans to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- ▶ Reinforce good hygiene practices and take steps to make it easy for workers to frequently wash their hands.
- ▶ Institute policies and practices that maintain 6 feet of physical distance between workers.
- ▶ Identify, clean and sanitize high-risk transmission areas regularly.
- ▶ Confined and enclosed spaces (e.g., trailers) should be identified and access should be restricted to essential personnel only.
- ▶ Enclosed spaces (e.g., toilets, break areas) must be viewed as potential transmission areas and treated accordingly. Time spent in these areas should be reduced as much as possible.
- ▶ Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- ▶ Consider adopting a "one worker, one tool" approach, where workers label their equipment and personal items at the beginning of their shift and only use those items for the day.
- ▶ Require sick workers to stay home and send sick workers home.

### **WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- ▶ Employees need to take steps to protect themselves. Refer to the CDC guideline: [How to Protect Yourself](#)
- ▶ If you have symptoms of acute respiratory illness (i.e., fever, cough, shortness of breath), you should stay home and not come to work until you are free of symptoms for at least 72 hours, without the use of medicine. Be sure to notify your supervisor if you are staying home. Refer to the CDC guideline: [What To Do if You Are Sick](#)
- ▶ Don't try rumored home remedies to prevent or cure the coronavirus. Some of these alleged treatments or prevention techniques can hurt you.
- ▶ Before starting your job for the day, perform a self-screening. This includes checking your temperature and performing contact tracing to determine if you've been in contact with anyone who may be exposed to COVID-19.
- ▶ On the job, maintain good workplace hygiene, including handwashing practices and coughing/sneezing etiquette (into sleeves or elbows, not hands).

- ▶ Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other workers and limit large group interactions. Follow these same practices off the job.
- ▶ If you see another worker who is not practicing appropriate social distancing, report this individual to your supervisor.
- ▶ Cooperate with response measures instituted by your employer and those recommended by health officials at the federal, state and local levels.
- ▶ Do not share other workers' phones, PPE or other work tools and equipment.

### **PRACTICES FOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTING HIGH-RISK TRANSMISSION AREAS**

- ▶ Frequently clean and sanitize surfaces in common areas (e.g., break rooms, lunch areas, changing areas), as well as toilet facilities. Wipe down high-touch surfaces (e.g., faucets, handles to toilet facilities, tools).
- ▶ Place hand-washing stations, hand sanitizer or other hand-cleaning methods at the entry and exit to the project or jobsite.

### **CLEAN AND SANITIZE TOILET FACILITIES USING THE FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES:**

- ▶ Keep toilets clean, sanitary and operational at all times.
- ▶ Ensure proper disposal of waste from these facilities.
- ▶ Consider providing additional toilet facilities if several workers will need to use the restroom at the same time (e.g., during scheduled breaks).
- ▶ Set a servicing schedule for cleaning, waste removal and replenishment of supplies, such as toilet paper and handwashing agents.
- ▶ Use an EPA-registered cleaning agent [specifically labeled for SARS-CoV-2](#).
- ▶ If an EPA-registered cleaning agent is not available, a solution of bleach and water can be used.

### **WORKERS PERFORMING THIS CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SHOULD:**

- ▶ Wear PPE. This may include N95 respirators, disposable gloves, protective clothing and eye protection.
- ▶ Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning.
- ▶ Clean dirty surfaces using a detergent, or soap and water, prior to disinfection.
- ▶ Be trained on safe donning, doffing and disposal of PPE to avoid infectious disease transmission.
- ▶ Clean hands immediately after PPE is removed.
- ▶ Be medically able to wear the type of respirator needed and trained on how to use it.
- ▶ Be aware of the differences between dust masks and N95 respirators.
- ▶ Dust masks do not protect the wearer from airborne respiratory droplets.
- ▶ Dust masks protect others from exposure to you; N95 respirators protect you from exposure to others.

Health and safety on the jobsite is everyone's responsibility. By following these recommendations, you may be able to keep yourself and your fellow workers safe from exposure on the jobsite.

*This document is for general information only and is not intended to provide, and should not be relied upon for, medical or other advice in any particular circumstance or fact situation.*