

## Precautions for Disinfecting Areas during an Emergency

During times of increased sickness (flu season, pandemic spread, etc.), use the guidelines below to support cleaning efforts. Use this guidance in all areas that you may utilize.

### **Guidance**

1. Ensure that touch points are cleaned as often as possible.

Touch Points Include:

- Door handles and push guards
- Stall door handles
- Toilets
- Any hand levers or buttons
- Faucet Handles
- Hand-drying machines
- Trash and napkin receptacle lids
- Toilet Paper and seat cover dispensers
- Touch Screens and literature dispensers
- ADA stall supports
- Hand Rails
- Other touch points not identified above

*Additionally, consider the following*

2. Check that hand soap and hand sanitizer containers are functioning and fully supplied.
3. Apply cleaning and disinfection chemicals as directed on the manufacturer's instructions as **contact time** of chemicals on surfaces and use of appropriate **PPE** are vital.
4. Check levels of trash receptacles, empty as needed.
5. Ensure that the safety posters remain in restrooms for the duration of the emergency.

### **Safety and Other Considerations**

1. Use ALL Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as prescribed when using chemicals.
2. If using bleach, use PASP/guidance see below.
3. Use gloves to empty trash and/or pick up litter
4. Wash hands after removing gloves.



## Pre Activity Safety Plan

***Safety Information for the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD)***

How to safely prepare a bleach/water mixture for the disinfection of surfaces at ITD Facilities

*\*These mixtures are good for a 24 hour time period. After the 24 hours they start to lose their effectiveness.*

Task	Mixing Concentrations
1. Preparation of disinfecting solution with Household bleach (8.25% sodium Hypochlorite)	When mixing standard household bleach, (Clorox) to disinfect surfaces mix at 1/4 cup of household bleach to 1 gallon of water. This is per the manufactures recommendations and is exceeding the guidelines of the CDC.
2. Preparation of disinfection solution with sodium hypochlorite in excess of 8.25%	When mixing sodium hypochlorite that is greater than 8.25%, mix to a concentration that is greater than 2400ppm of sodium hypochlorite to water. The amount needed to achieve this concentration will change depending on the concentration being utilized. <b>**Follow the manufacturers recommendations for mixing these products**</b>
3. Use of disinfecting solution	The bleach/water solution shall be applied to the surfaces to be cleaned with a spray bottle, and left to sit for at least <b>5 minutes</b> . For floors surfaces, they shall be saturated with a mop and left to sit for <b>5 minutes</b> . After the surfaces have been left to sit for <b>5 minutes</b> the surfaces shall be dried in the usual fashion or left to dry naturally.
<b>4. CAUTION!</b>	DO NOT mix bleach/sodium hypochlorite with any other cleaning products, or ammonia which will release hazardous gasses into the atmosphere! When mixing the solutions pour the chemical into the water to prevent splash hazards.



## Surface Wipe-down Procedure

### **Overview**

Viruses are known to survive on non-porous surface, such as steel and plastic, for 24 to 48 hours after inoculation and from cloth, paper, and tissues for 8 to 12 hours. Viable virus can be transferred from non-porous surfaces to hands for 24 hours and from tissues to hands for 15 minutes.

### **Frequency**

Surfaces to be disinfected should be cleaned with each shift change or at all employee changes for shared work stations or vehicles.

### **Procedure**

Potentially contaminated surfaces should be cleaned with an appropriate disinfectant by the person starting the shift. The person cleaning should consider wearing gloves and a mask when cleaning. ITD offices should provide disinfectant wipes for use on surfaces that can become contaminated. ***\*If disinfectant wipes are unavailable, cleaning kits will be created and used in their place.***

### **Surfaces to disinfect**

Any object or surface that is touched or potentially coughed on, in and around the workplace or in vehicles or heavy equipment should be disinfected. Allow personal keyboard and computer mouse to be stored at employees' work station to provide a clean and private space.

### **Disinfectants**

Make disinfectant hand cleaner available at all work stations, break rooms, and in common areas.

- Commercial disinfectants obtained through ITD supply centers
- Household disinfectants labeled for use against bacteria and viruses
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered hospital disinfectants
- Mix and use one-quarter (1/4) cup chlorine bleach with one (1) gallon of cool water.
- Leave wet for 5 minutes and rinse

### **Hand-washing technique**

Proper hand washing may be the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. Hands should be washed thoroughly and properly at the beginning and end of each shift.

1. Remove all debris from hands and arms
2. Rinse hands under cool running water and apply antimicrobial soap, lather well
3. There is a 15-second minimum washing time for hands and fingers
4. Work soap around fingers and fingernails. Do not use a scrub brush, because it could cause abrasions and hasten the spread of infection
5. Rinse thoroughly with cool running water (hot water opens pores and dilates capillaries).
6. Dry hands with paper towels and use the towel to turn off the faucet
7. Cover cuts and abrasions with bandages until fully healed
8. If hands are not visibly soiled or sticky, they may be sanitized with an alcohol-based hand rub.

