

# COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Environmental Cleaning of Public Facilities

## Public Health Guidelines for Environmental Cleaning of Public Facilities during Respiratory Illnesses in the Community

This document is to support owners and operators of public facilities with general cleaning and disinfection considerations as it relates to COVID-19. For general information on COVID-19 or to find site specific resources, please visit: [ahs.ca/covid](https://ahs.ca/covid).

### General Cleaning

- Increase daily cleaning and disinfection of common areas and surfaces. Pay particular attention to door knobs, light switches, staff rooms, desktops, washrooms and other high touch surfaces.
- Cleaning refers to the removal of visible dirt, grime and impurities. Cleaning does not kill germs but helps remove them from the surface.
- Disinfecting refers to using chemical to kill germs on surfaces. This is most effective after surfaces are cleaned. Both steps are important to reduce the spread of infection.
- Use a **disinfectant** that has a Drug Identification Number (DIN) and a virucidal claim. Be sure to follow the instructions on the label to disinfect effectively.
- Alternatively, you can make a 1000ppm bleach water solution by mixing 20 ml (4 teaspoons) of unscented, household bleach with 1000 ml (4 cups) of water. Ensure the surface remains wet with the bleach water solution for 1 minute.
- Be sure to take the appropriate precautions when using chemicals for cleaning and disinfecting. Consult the product's Safety Data Sheets.

### Prevention

- [Wash your hands often and well](#)
- Avoid touching your face, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched
- Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill
- [When sick, cover your cough and sneezes and then wash your hands](#)

### Enhanced Measures

- In the event of a cluster of illness in a specific public facility, please adhere to any additional recommendations provided by Public Health at that time.

## COVID-19 Environmental Cleaning of Public Facilities Recommendations • 2

### References:

Alberta Health Services Infection Prevention and Control

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

### For more information, please contact your nearest Environmental Public Health office.

Edmonton Main Office  
Calgary Main Office  
Lethbridge Main Office

780-735-1800  
403-943-2288  
403-388-6689

Grande Prairie Main Office  
Red Deer Main Office  
[www.ahs.ca/eph](http://www.ahs.ca/eph)

780-513-7517  
403-356-6366  
PUB-0568-202004

©2020 Alberta Health Services, Safe Healthy Environments



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Non-commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/). You are free to copy, distribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, as long as you attribute the work to Alberta Health Services and abide by the other license terms. If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same, similar, or compatible license. The license does not apply to content for which the Alberta Health Services is not the copyright owner.

This material is intended for general information only and is provided on an "as is," "where is" basis. Although reasonable efforts were made to confirm the accuracy of the information, Alberta Health Services does not make any representation or warranty, express, implied or statutory, as to the accuracy, reliability, completeness, applicability or fitness for a particular purpose of such information.