



DISINFECTION GUIDANCE

(as of 6/17/2020)

The CDC and other public health experts have stressed that it is imperative that facilities and businesses develop, implement, and maintain a specific plan for cleaning and disinfection, while also revising when appropriate.

The **CDC's General Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces** https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening_America_Guidance.pdf outlines how to create and implement a plan.

Also useful is the **NYC Department of Health's COVID-19: General Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection for Non-Health Care Settings:**

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/disinfection-guidance-for-businesses-covid19.pdf>

In a theatre setting, particular attention must be paid to high-touch surfaces and objects and high-traffic areas. It is not unreasonable to expect to disinfect some areas three or more times per day when a theatre is in use. Both sets of guidelines stress to first clean, then disinfect.

The EPA's "List N" is a searchable database of more than 400 products specifically approved for disinfectant use against COVID-19 on surfaces: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>

It is important to use the proper disinfectant on each surface, to pay attention to the time the disinfectant needs to remain on the surface to kill the virus, and any effects certain chemicals may have (bleaching, fading, corrosion, etc.) on fabric and surfaces.

There has been much speculation and research about the effectiveness of UV light to kill the coronavirus. However, this are still questions regarding its efficacy, plus safety and health concerns. From the CDC: "germicidal effectiveness and use is influenced by organic matter; wavelength; type of suspension; temperature; type of microorganism; and UV intensity."¹ To effectively kill viruses, UV-C light must be emitted in a range of [200 to 280 nanometers](#), which has potential for harm.²

Some disinfectants - only when specified on the product's instructions - can be used with an electrostatic sprayer. However, if a product's label does not include disinfection directions for use with fogging, fumigation, wide-area, or electrostatic spraying, the EPA has not reviewed any data on whether the product is safe and effective when used by those methods.³

All workers must have proper PPE and follow safety guidelines in the application of cleaning and disinfecting products.

Hypochlorous acid (HOCl), in particular, is non-toxic and non-hazardous. Unlike most chemical sanitizers, hypochlorous acid is non-irritant to eyes, skin, and the respiratory tract. This may make it a useful disinfectant for areas that need to be disinfected repeatedly while people are in the building, especially backstage where

crowded hallways may require disinfectant when not occupied by cast and crew. A few EPA approved products containing HOCl are:

PUREROX™

<https://icleanforhealth.com/purerox-hospital-disinfectant>

ENVIRO-CLEANSE A

<https://www.envirocleanse.us>

DANOLYTE

<https://danolyte.co>

CLEANSMART

<https://www.cleansmarthome.com>

Disinfectant wipes have proved hard to acquire in large quantities. One solution is to create your own industrial-sized disinfectant wipes and dispenser using a large bucket, dry wipes, and disinfectant. [Greeno Supply](https://www.greenosupply.com) is one company selling a kit for this (note that you must purchase a proper disinfectant solution, which is also available on the site) and also carries a wide selection of PPE and disinfecting products:

https://www.greenosupply.com/Products/Make-your-Disinfectant-Wipes-Bundle--Includes-2-White-Gallon-Buckets-wLids--6-High-Quality-Wiper-Roll-Refills--1080--6-x-12-Wipes--You-add-your__WBDL.aspx?ix=2&fc=L1C

1. "Miscellaneous Inactivating Agents," Center for Disease Control and Prevention, September 18, 2016, <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/disinfection-methods/miscellaneous.html>.

2. "Fact Sheet on UV Disinfection for COVID-19," International Ultraviolet Association, accessed June 11, 2020, <http://www.iuva.org/IUVA-Fact-Sheet-on-UV-Disinfection-for-COVID-19>.

3. "Can I use fumigation or wide-area spraying to help control COVID-19?," United States Environmental Protection Agency, May 22, 2020, <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/can-i-use-fumigation-or-wide-area-spraying-help-control-covid-19>.