



## Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols

In alignment with public health recommendations, Eastern Shore Vacation Rentals is taking measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, which includes the implementation of enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures as recommended by the CDC.

### General Guidance/Safety

- **Regular cleaning staff** can clean and disinfect with limited additional training.
  - All staff must be trained on appropriate use of cleaning and disinfection chemicals, supplies and protective wear.
- **All staff must wear disposable gloves for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.**
  - Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
  - Gloves and protective wear should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area. Clothing should be washed after cleaning.
- **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for 20 seconds.
  - Always wash immediately after removing gloves and after contact with a person who is sick.
  - Hand sanitizer: If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.
- **Additional key times to wash hands** include:
  - After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - After using the restroom.
  - Before eating or preparing food.
  - After contact with animals or pets.

- Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child).

## Cleaning

- Open as many windows and doors for ventilation for as long as possible upon entry.
- Clean surfaces and objects that are visibly soiled first. If surfaces are dirty to the sight or touch, they must be cleaned using a detergent, soap and water first prior to disinfection.
- Verify that any cleansers used will not have contraindicative reactions (i.e. safety issues such as mixing bleach and ammonia) with disinfectants used. If so, DO NOT USE.
- Cleaning with soap and water **reduces number of germs, dirt and impurities** on the surface. This must be done first or the disinfecting process may not work.

**Disinfecting kills germs** on surfaces.

- Pay special attention to all **high touch surfaces** including: Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, remotes, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.
- Verify there are no lingering residues/remnants on the surfaces.

## Disinfection

### Hard, non-porous surfaces

- Recommend use of EPA-registered disinfectant for use against COVID-19. **Follow the instructions on the label** to ensure safe and effective use of the product.  
Many products recommend:
  - Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label). Leave the product on the surface for at least one minute.
    - Pay special attention to all **high touch surfaces** including: Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, remotes, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.
  - Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation.
- Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used if appropriate for the surface. **DO NOT USE BLEACH SOLUTION ON CARPETS OR FABRICS.**
  - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection, and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing may not be suitable for disinfection.

- Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. To make a 10% bleach solution, mix:
  - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water
- After application, allow 2 minutes of contact time before wiping, or allow to air dry (without wiping). Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
- Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.
- **Do not mix bleach with any other chemicals, particularly ammonia.**

### **Soft surfaces**

For soft surfaces such as **carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes**:

- Remove visible contamination (if present) and clean the surface with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.
- **MOST OF THESE SURFACES WILL BE DAMAGED BY BLEACH. USE CAUTION!**
- After cleaning, launder items (as appropriate) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.
- If laundering is not possible, use an EPA-registered household disinfectant against COVID-19.

### **Electronics**

For electronics, such as **tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, appliances**:

- **Follow manufacturer's instruction** for cleaning and disinfecting.
  - If no guidance, **use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol**. Dry surface thoroughly.

### **Laundry**

For clothing, towels, linens and other items

- Launder items according to the manufacturer's instructions. **Use the warmest appropriate water setting** and dry items completely.
- **Wear disposable gloves** when handling dirty laundry from a person who is sick.
- Dirty laundry from a person who is sick **can be washed with other people's items**.
- **Do not shake** dirty laundry.
- Clean and **disinfect clothes hampers** according to guidance above for surfaces.
- Remove dirty gloves, dispose of them and **wash hands right away**.

- Put on clean gloves to remake beds.

### **Cleaning and disinfecting outdoor areas**

- All outdoor areas related to the individual property should be treated according to the individual surface type, cleaned and disinfected accordingly.
- Outdoor areas, like **playgrounds in schools and parks** generally require **normal routine cleaning**, but **do not require disinfection**.
  - Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playgrounds- it is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.
  - High touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings should be cleaned routinely.
  - Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) is not recommended.
- **Sidewalks and roads should not be disinfected.**
  - Spread of COVID-19 from these surfaces is very low and disinfection is not effective.

### **Expectations of Vendor Partners**

- Educate workers performing cleaning, laundry, and trash pick-up to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19.
- Provide instructions on what to do if they develop symptoms within 14 days after their last possible exposure to the virus.
- Develop policies for worker protection and provide training to all cleaning staff on site prior to providing cleaning tasks.
  - Training should include when to use PPE, what PPE is necessary, how to properly don (put on), use, and doff (take off) PPE, and how to properly dispose of PPE.
- Ensure workers are trained on the hazards of the cleaning chemicals used in the workplace in accordance with all applicable OSHA requirements.

#### Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

<https://www.ehs.washington.edu/system/files/resources/cleaning-disinfection-protocols-covid-19.pdf>

[https://www.journalofhospitalinfection.com/article/S0195-6701\(20\)30046-3/pdf](https://www.journalofhospitalinfection.com/article/S0195-6701(20)30046-3/pdf)