



Cleaning and Disinfection in Classrooms

Returning to the Classroom

Specialized cleaning procedures using approved disinfectants are required to minimize the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Cleaning and disinfection of classrooms is shared between Facilities Management and the occupants. This guide focuses on the cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces in these areas.

Classroom Facilities

Daily Cleaning and Disinfection of Classrooms

Housekeeping staff in Facilities Management (FM) are working to keep common areas, restrooms, and high touch surfaces in classrooms cleaned and disinfected. All classrooms are cleaned and disinfected nightly. Restrooms are cleaned and disinfected twice daily.

Please note that drinking fountains will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, however, per CDC recommendations, faculty, staff and students are encouraged to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.

More information on the services that Facilities Management provides, including frequency of cleaning can be found in their [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage.

Cleaning and Disinfecting During Classes

In addition to the daily FM cleaning and disinfection actions, instructors are expected to direct students to wipe down surfaces they touch. Instructors are to be flexible and provide time for students to clean and disinfect their work area before class activities begin. Each student will wipe down their classroom work surface with disinfectants that are provided upon entering the room. It is expected that each instructor will also clean and disinfect their work surface – lectern and the equipment upon entering the room.

Surfaces include:

- Chairs and desks

- Computers, mice, keyboards, touchscreens
- Printers and other shared electronics
- Door handles and knobs
- Light switches and screen controls

Disinfecting wipes are provided in each classroom for this purpose. These wipes do not require the use of personal protective equipment (i.e., gloves). Gloves may be used if contact with the wipe is not desired due to skin sensitivities or personal preference but will not be provided in the classrooms. If wipes are running low or run out, place a work order into the Facilities Management Customer Support Center at 301-405-2222.

Disinfectants need time to work. There are two types of wipes available in classrooms. Daycon Awesome Ready-To-Use wipes are available for students to use to wipe down their desks. These wipes require a [10 minute contact time](#) to be effective against SARS-CoV-2. This may require using more than one wipe to maintain a wet surface. At instructor podiums, Daycon 70% alcohol wipes are available for cleaning electronic teaching tools. These are designed to be wiped across a surface and allowing to air dry. It is important to read and follow the manufacturer's instructions, or the listed EPA contact times, on how long to leave the disinfectant on a surface before wiping.

For information on cleaning laboratory classrooms see: [Cleaning and Disinfection in Laboratories](#).

Any wipes or other items used for cleaning purposes can be disposed of in the regular trash as solid waste (i.e. the black "TRASH" boxes located in campus buildings or other trash cans, dumpsters, or receptacles). Unused or unwanted cleaning products need to be submitted through the Regulated Waste Pickup Request system on the ESSR website for proper disposal. Cleaning products and disinfectants should never be disposed of in the trash.

Do not mix disinfectants with other cleaning products or disinfectants. Dangerous chemical reactions could produce toxic fumes.

Hand Sanitizer

Public areas are be provided with standalone hand sanitizing stations, as supplies allow, either wall mounted or pedestal type at high traffic areas and in proximity to classrooms.

Hand sanitizer is used to clean hands when soap and water is not available. It is not meant to be used on surfaces. Hands should be washed thoroughly or hand sanitizer applied frequently and after cleaning surfaces. Cleaning and disinfection is a best practice in reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission however, it cannot substitute for frequent hand hygiene.

Housekeeping staff will monitor/replenish stations daily (as supplies allow), however, if a station is empty, refill requests can be made using the [on-line FM work ticket system](#) or by calling the FM Customer Response Center (CRC) at 5-2222.

Disinfectant Information

Selecting the Right Disinfectant

The CDC recommends use of the EPA List N Disinfectants or sanitizing wipes containing at least 70% alcohol for use against the coronavirus. Each EPA List N disinfectant will have a registration number is located on the product label.

All disinfectants available in classrooms, on the Department of Business Services [Digital Storefront](#), and those used by Facilities Management housekeeping services meet CDC recommendations.

Do not use products, other than 70% alcohol sanitizing wipes, that do not have an EPA registration number for use against SARS-CoV-2.

Alternative Disinfectants

The efficacy of alternative disinfection methods, such as ultrasonic waves, high intensity UV radiation, and LED blue light against COVID-19 virus is not known. The EPA does not routinely review the safety or efficacy of pesticidal devices, such as UV lights, LED lights, or ultrasonic devices. Therefore, EPA cannot confirm whether, or under what circumstances, such products might be effective against the spread of COVID-19.

ESSR discourages the use of fogging, fumigation, or vaporization techniques as a method of disinfecting indoor environments against COVID-19 based on the

potential negative health impacts caused by disinfectant concentrations and lack of data on the effectiveness of using these devices. This position is based upon guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [American Industrial Hygiene Association \(AIHA\)](#), and [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#).

Material Specific Guides

General Electronics Cleaning Guidance

Certain equipment such as a computer keyboard and mouse, key-style touchpads, and on-off switches may be damaged by spraying and by harsher disinfectants such as bleach. Only use the disinfecting wipes that have been provided to disinfect electronic surfaces.

Unplug all external power sources and cables before starting. Wipe so that the surface is visibly wet and allow to air dry. Ensure moisture does not get into any openings to avoid damage.

Computers

Cleaning of computers should be limited to external surfaces such as handles and other common touchable surfaces. Do not open cabinet and chassis doors or attempt to clean any internal components.

When cleaning a monitor, carefully wipe in one direction, moving from the top of the display to the bottom. After cleaning or disinfecting a glass monitor, it should be cleaned again using a glass cleaner according to manufacturer's instructions.

Consider use of wipeable or disposable covers for shared components (e.g., keyboard cover, mouse cover). Discuss any remote access program installation required to facilitate contact-free remote IT troubleshooting with DivIT (itsupport@umd.edu; 301-405-1500).

Chalkboards and Whiteboards

Instructors should carry their own chalk, whiteboard markers, erasers, and other teaching aids to class. These items will not be provided in the classrooms.

Ventilation Systems

Academic and Administrative buildings are heated, cooled and ventilated by a variety of HVAC systems. Many of our buildings provide combined ventilation and heating or cooling through air handling systems.

Some of our buildings decouple heating and cooling from ventilation, this is most prevalent with fan coil units in many of the campus' older buildings. When fan coil units are deployed, natural ventilation is the main source of ventilation. If you have questions about building and HVAC systems in your work space, please contact the Facilities Management Customer Support Center at fmcrc@umd.edu or 301-405-2222.

FM's HVAC work center has been working to assess HVAC building systems to ensure proper ventilation and appropriate levels of filtration are being provided. Normal preventative maintenance is conducted on these systems to ensure proper operation. Filters are replaced with higher efficiency filters where possible and when it will not have a detrimental impact on the operation of the building HVAC system.

Additionally, FM convened an evaluation task force that is assessing campus HVAC systems based on [ASHRAE's COVID-19 guidance](#) to evaluate various operational modifications that might be beneficial in reducing the risk of transmission of the virus.

Positive COVID-19 Case

In the event of a confirmed or suspected positive case of COVID-19, internal or contract professional cleaning organizations will be responsible for the disinfection of the spaces previously occupied by the individual as identified and directed by the University Health Center.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, following a confirmed or suspected COVID case cleaning and/or disinfection will be completed according to the following guidelines:

1. When possible, the space is to be left unoccupied for 7 days. After 7 days the space will only need normal routine cleaning to reopen the area, no additional disinfection is required.
2. If the space must be occupied immediately, the CDC recommends waiting at least 24 hours prior to cleaning and disinfection.
3. Cleaning and disinfection personnel or professional cleaners will wear appropriate PPE.
4. Only hard surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected. Papers, books, and personal belongings will not be disinfected by personnel or

professional cleaners. These items should be stored for 7 days at which time the SARS-CoV-2 virus will no longer be viable.

5. Soft surfaces such as seating should be cleaned with the appropriate cleaning products specific to that use.
6. Vacuum carpet. If needed, extract carpet with the appropriate carpet cleaning chemicals.
7. If hard floor, dust mop and wet mop. Wet mop with a disinfectant cleaner.

Resources and References

For additional questions, contact ESSR at safety@umd.edu.

[CDC Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#)

[EPA Approved List of Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)

[UMD ESSR Working Safely During COVID-19](#)

[UMD Cleaning and Disinfection Guidelines](#)

[UMD COVID-19 Updates and Resources](#)

[HP Business PC & Print Devices Cleaning Guidance](#)