

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Tips on how to maintain a safe and clean home during the COVID-19 outbreak.

FREQUENT CLEANING OF HOUSEHOLDS

Community members can practice routine cleaning of all surfaces frequently touched surfaces with household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants. You should always clean surfaces first with a solution of liquid soap and warm water before applying disinfectant. Be sure to keep all cleaning products out of reach of children and call poison control (800) 222-1222 if a child ingests it.

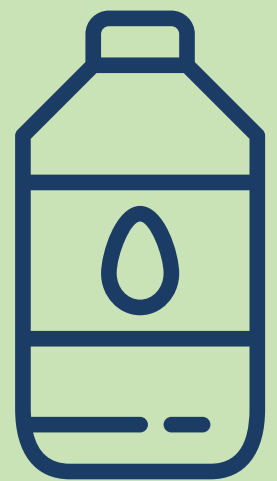


READY TO USE DISINFECTANTS

Disinfecting refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. Following the cleaning of surfaces, prioritize disinfecting high touch areas like tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, and sinks. The EPA has a list of disinfectants that are effective in killing coronavirus on surfaces and can be found on their website at www.epa.gov. Follow label instructions and manufacturer guidelines for proper use and ventilation.

ALTERNATIVES TO READY TO USE DISINFECTANTS

Hydrogen peroxide (5% and 8%) and rubbing/isopropyl alcohol (at least 70%) are effective alternatives and can be used directly on the surface. If you cannot find either of those products, bleach (sodium hypochlorite) can also be used. Bleach can be an eye, nose and throat irritant and an asthma trigger, use with caution! Follow manufacturer's instructions for application, dilution and proper ventilation for products listed above.



GIVE THE DISINFECTANT TIME TO WORK

In order for a disinfectant to work effectively, it needs a minimum "contact time" on the surface before the disinfectant should be wiped off. The contact time can be different based on the product and concentration. Be sure to check the product label or manufacturer's website for further instructions.

