Reopening: Guidance for Small and Medium Sports and Entertainment Venues

Guidance Document

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Overview

Small and medium sports and entertainment venues across the United States have been heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most, if not all, were deemed “non-essential” in the U.S. by state and federal governments, resulting in employers halting operations and closing workplaces. Currently, many states are in the process of trying to re-open parts of their economies which includes some non-essential businesses. Sports and entertainment venues are currently navigating this reopening process. These venues are prone to crowding; therefore, they should approach reopening with a heightened level of caution.

SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is thought to be spread primarily through aerosolized respiratory droplets at close range. Airborne transmission exposure to very small droplets over long distances is unlikely. However, there is evidence that this mode of transmission is possible, particularly in crowded, indoor spaces. People may also become infected by touching contaminated surfaces. The virus has been shown to survive in aerosols for hours and on surfaces for days. Infection can occur through eyes, nose, and mouth exposures. There is also strong evidence that people can spread the virus while pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic.

Small and medium sports and entertainment venues includes but are not limited to:

- Batting Cages
- Billiard/Pool Halls
- Bowling Alleys
- Golf Courses and Ranges
- Movie Theatres
- Indoor Arcades
- Karaoke Rooms
- Wine Tasting
- Museums
- Local Live Theatres
- Music/Dance halls
- Casinos

The reopening of these venues should be approached on a case-by-case basis, while incorporating local, state, and federal guidelines. As owners and administrators of these venues begin their reopening process, they should address these fundamental questions:

- What measures can we enact to protect the health of employees and patrons?
- What communication is needed to keep everyone informed of the preventative steps being taken?
- What training is needed for employees?
- What limitations may we need to implement for both employees and patrons?
- How do we handle crowd management throughout the venue, including peak times?
- What precautions should we take regarding high-touch interactive surfaces (e.g. bowling, casinos, etc.)?

This document offers practical guidance as small and medium sports and entertainment venues develop their reopening plans including physical distancing, ventilation, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting practices, restrooms, communication, restrooms, personal hygiene, employee wellness and other control measures.

What should an Employer do to protect themselves and their employees?

Employers should continually monitor global (World Health Organization [WHO]), federal (Centers for Disease Control [CDC] and Occupational Safety and Health Administration [OSHA]), state, and local guidelines for changes in recommendations, dis-
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infection strategies, worker protections and other best management practices. For example, general guidelines regarding best practices for specific industries, worker hygiene, cleaning and disinfection, physical distancing, and employee wellness should be reviewed and addressed. Employers should consider forming a knowledgeable team to monitor, assess, and implement new strategies as they become available. In addition to best practices, companies should consider a re-occupancy plan that includes a detailed response plan describing the actions to be taken if someone becomes ill with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 while at work.

Physical Distancing

- Consider reducing the number of people allowed into venues to 50% (or less).

- Capacity considerations should not only be applied to the venue as a whole, but also to exhibits and viewing areas so as to allow for physical distancing.

- For certain venues, creating one-way traffic flows may be appropriate to mitigate crowding and prohibit clusters of people.

- Physical distancing should be maintained even for smaller groups congregating at an exhibit or smaller event within the space.

- Employees should practice physical distancing (6 feet or more) whenever interacting with patrons, vendors, and other employees.

- Develop strategies for employees to minimize contact with high-touch surfaces and wash hands/utilize hand sanitizer before and after touching.

- Make hand sanitizer stations available throughout work and public places. Stations should also be placed in convenient locations, such as at entrances, exits, near elevators, and restrooms. Touch-free hand sanitizer dispensers should be installed where possible.

- Establish a payment system that discourages the use of cash or checks (e.g. use a pre-payment or app-based system where possible or have service provider take payment information over the phone).

  - Encourage patrons to purchase all tickets and make reservations online.

  - Consider using smart phone apps for food and drink ordering. This can limit congestion around order areas.

  - If not possible, then ticket-buying areas should be demarcated to ensure physical distancing and be clearly designated. Consider physical barriers between employees and patrons for in-person transactions.

  - To minimize contact between customers, consider using reservation-only methods for areas of the facility used by small groups (tables, bowling lane, pool table, etc.).

- Consider spacing groups by using marked off tables, “dark” bowling lanes, closed slot machines, etc.

- The use of guides (e.g. tape; paint) to direct guests in a unilateral movement is recommended.

- Consider barriers or partitions between slot machines, games, etc.

- Signage and barriers should be posted to keep patrons from touching exhibit barriers, signs, information booths, and other frequently touched surfaces.

- Assigned seating should be used where appropriate (e.g. theatres, shows) such that guests are not seated next to one another.

- Limit patrons in karaoke rooms and discourage mingling of groups.

- Stagger screen, show, and event times so that patrons for one event do not arrive at the same times as those for another.
– Stagger screenings, shows, and events to also allow for disinfecting and air circulation in each individual theater space.

• Patrons should be encouraged to not to linger or socialize in the lobby or in parking lot prior to or after shows and events.

Ventilation

• Provide natural ventilation by opening windows and doors whenever possible to increase air flow. If windows and doors cannot remain open, provide good indoor air quality by:
  – Keeping HVAC system operational to maintain thermal comfort and maximize outdoor air based on system design.
  – Maintaining the relative humidity at 40-60%.
  – Limiting the use of portable pedestal or overhead ceiling fans.

• If you need assistance on HVAC issues, ask an HVAC professional and see the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers’ (ASHRAE) COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Preparedness Resources updates for more information.
  – AIHA Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) Science Professionals and industrial hygienists are also well versed in general dilution ventilation. AIHA has a consultants list of such qualified professionals.

• Consider using portable HEPA filtration units.

• If fans such as pedestal fans or hard mounted fans are used in the venue, take steps to minimize air from fans blowing from one person directly at another individual. If fans are disabled or removed, employers should remain aware of, and take steps to prevent, heat hazards.

Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfecting Practices

• Educate employees on cleaning common high-touch surfaces (e.g. doorknobs, faucet handles, light switches, etc.) and unique venue specific high-touch surfaces (e.g. interactive touch screens, vending machines, slot machines, shared equipment, etc.).

• Select appropriate disinfectants – consider effectiveness and safety.
  – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a list of products that meet EPA’s criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2.
  – Do not mix different EPA registered chemicals together. The combination could be toxic by inhalation. Be particularly careful when using any products containing ammonia, sodium hypochlorite (bleach), or hydrogen peroxide.
  – Review product labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and follow manufacturer specifications for cleaning/disinfecting.
  – Consider consulting an Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) Science Professional or Industrial Hygiene expert if additional advice is needed. AIHA has a consultants list of such qualified professionals.

• Establish a disinfection routine.
  – Ensure disinfection protocols follow product instructions for application and contact time. All items should be allowed to dry thoroughly after cleaning.
  – Use disposable wipes or rags when available. If not available, ensure rags are maintained, handled, and cleaned per product instructions.

• Consider developing a standard operating procedure, a checklist, or audit system to consistently train employees on enhanced cleaning/disinfecting practices or to track when and how cleaning and disinfecting is conducted. Note that this may be a requirement in some states or local jurisdictions.

• Consider consulting the manufacturer for the proper disinfection of electronic equipment.
Encourage employees to wash and dry uniforms and face coverings daily on the highest setting allowable for the fabric.

Any shared equipment (e.g., bowling shoes, cue sticks, microphones etc.) should be kept behind a counter, and disinfected appropriately between uses with a disinfectant mentioned on EPA’s List N.

Food and bar service should follow practices outlined by the FDA and local and state guidance. Employers should reference the AIHA’s Back to Work Safely guidance for Bars and Restaurants.

- Refills of popcorn, drinks, and other items should be discontinued, and new containers should always be used.
- Self-serve beverage machines and condiment stations should be closed when possible, and, when not possible, increased sanitation practices should be employed.
- Any other attractions (e.g., arcades, laser tag) should be reopened with caution, increased disinfection practices, and decreased capacity. For example, reopening of arcades may include limitations on the number or types of games open (e.g., no multi-player games; open only every other game).

Frequently touched surfaces should be disinfected between each use. If doing so cannot be accomplished, then the owner and manager should consider leaving these areas closed.

Deeper cleaning and disinfecting protocols should be developed and implemented in cases where confirmed cases of COVID-19 are discovered. Refer to AIHA’s Workplace Cleaning for COVID-19.

Restrooms

- Numbers allowed in restrooms should be limited and lines discouraged or formed with proper distancing. Signage in bathrooms should be posted encouraging handwashing and illustrating proper handwashing technique.
- Post signage limiting restroom occupancy to allow for proper physical distancing and to remind guests and employees to wash hands before and after using the restroom.
- Minimize touchpoints entering and existing restrooms, if possible.
- If the door cannot be opened without touching the handle, provide paper towels and a trash can by the door so a paper towel can be used when touching the handle and then discarded.

- Consider controlling access to bathrooms with a key so disinfection measures can be better managed. If a key is used, consider disinfecting it after each use.
- Doors to multi-stall restrooms should be able to be opened and closed without touching handles if possible.
- Place signs indicating that toilet lids (if present) should be closed before and after flushing.
- Use no-touch faucets, towel dispensers, soap dispensers, and waste receptacles when possible.
- Hand soap should be readily available for use by occupants.
- Provide paper towels and air dryers in restrooms.
  - The WHO and CDC currently state that hands can be dried using a paper towel or hand dryer.
  - Due to current uncertainties surrounding the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, care should be taken when using a hand dryer or paper towel.
  - The use of touch or push hand dryers is discouraged due to possible surface contamination. If hand dryers are used, consider touchless devices.

1NOTE VERSION CHANGE: In version 1 of this guidance document, in the section titled “Restrooms” it stated to disconnect or tape off the hand dryer.
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Personal Hygiene

- Businesses and employers should work with HVAC professionals to ensure that bathrooms are well ventilated, and if filtration is used, that proper filtration practices are being followed.
- Increase frequency and efforts to keep bathrooms clean and properly disinfected and maintain a record of sanitary work practices.

- At minimum, employees should wash their hands after they have been in a public place, after touching their face covering, after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing, after using the restroom, after touching any common contact surfaces, and before eating. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

- Employees should wash hands with clean, running water, apply soap, lather and scrub for at least 20 seconds, then rinse. Dry hands using a clean paper towel or air dry. When soap and water can’t be used, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol. Any use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers should follow local and State guidelines.

- Provide hand washing stations at the front of the establishment or alternatively, hand sanitizer if not feasible.
  - Automated hand sanitizer dispensers and should be provided throughout the space.

- Provide hand sanitizer to both patron and employee-only work areas.

- Signage should be posted at each hand sanitizer station encouraging proper use and illustrating proper hand sanitizing technique.

- Employees should cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze and throw used tissues in the trash. If they don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into their elbow, not their hands. Immediately wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Learn more about coughing and sneezing etiquette.

Employee Wellness

- Health checks and reporting requirements of individuals infected with COVID-19 should be explained to employees prior to reopening and again once operations have resumed.

- Communicate to employees the importance of being vigilant when monitoring symptoms and staying in touch with their employer or manager if or when they start to feel sick.

- Revisit your leave or sick program to allow for time off and follow all HR Policies and HIPAA/other regulatory requirements.

- Conduct employee temperature screening and wellness checks before each shift. (NOTE: be sure to comply with OSHA’s Access to Employee Exposure Medical Records standard for confidentiality.)
  - Temperature screening methods can include manual (use non-contact infrared thermometers) or thermal camera meeting FDA recommendations. Additional screening information/guidance can be found on the CDC website.
  - Assign an employee to manage and conduct the temperature screenings while following CDC guidelines in the above link. If this is not possible, employees can self-check their own temperature.
  - Screening should be done in a manner such that the privacy of employees is respected.
  - Perform a visual inspection for other signs of illness (e.g., flushed cheeks, rapid or difficulty breathing without recent physical activity, fatigue, extreme fussiness, cough).
  - Employees who have a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or above, or other signs of illness should not be admitted to the facility.

- Employers can consider incorporating a wellness questionnaire with questions such as:
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– Have you, or a person you have been in close contact with, been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days? (close contact is 6 feet or less for more than 10 minutes.)
– Have you experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms in the last 72 hours (to include fever, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea)?
– Have you traveled to an international or domestic “hot spot” in the last 14 days?
– There are a number of examples available for wellness questionnaires (see Resources below).

• Require employees who have symptoms or signs (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) or who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 to notify their supervisor and stay home.

• Sick employees should follow the CDC-recommended steps. Employees should not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Consider waiving requirements for medical documentation during the pandemic, as the CDC has advised people with mild illness NOT to go to the doctor’s office or emergency room.

• If employee is sick or receives positive COVID-19 test results, results should be reported to employer. In the case of a positive COVID-19 test result, the employee must stay home until cleared for physical return to the workplace by their medical provider, following the CDC’s Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings.

• If an employee tests positive:
  – Follow federal, state, and local recommendations for reporting and communicating cases, while remaining compliant with regulations and guidelines pertaining to protecting private health information such as confidentiality required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). See OSHA for guidance on reporting workplace exposures to COVID-19.
  – Engage HR immediately and enforce all applicable HR rules and regulations.
  – The employee shall be isolated to the area they are in currently and removed from the work site for a minimum of 14 days. See the CDC’s Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) General Business Frequently Asked Questions.
  – Any individuals having “close contact” (within approximately 6 feet) with the sick employee should also be isolated from the work site for 14 days; and all other employees should continue to follow physical distancing rules. Communicate and reinforce with employees, while maintaining PII and HIPAA requirements, that they may have been exposed and to closely monitor their health, temperature, and current symptoms as identified by the CDC. Contact tracing and sharing of employee information should be done under the guidance of Human Resources due to privacy requirements of HIPAA, ADA, and EEOC.
  – Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting should be done immediately by trained personnel, who should wear face coverings and gloves, dispose of gloves after use, and wash hands and face when complete. Visibly dirty surfaces shall be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water PRIOR to disinfection.
  – For disinfection, use only EPA-registered disinfectants on List-N.

Other Control Measures

• Ask employees to consider the following if they commute to work using public transportation:
  – Use other forms of transportation if possible.
  – If taking public transportation, maintain physical distancing and wear a cloth or disposable face covering.

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– Change commute time to less busy times if possible.
– Wash hands before and as soon as possible after their trip.
– Although not necessary if hand-washing protocols are rigorously followed, consider providing gloves to employees.
  – If they are worn, they must be changed regularly and are not a substitution for handwashing.
– Depending on local requirements, for those who cannot maintain physical distancing as part of their job, provide or encourage all employees to wear cloth or disposable face coverings and gloves and to use hand sanitizer. *(NOTE: Cloth or disposable face coverings primarily protect other people. A cloth or disposable face covering is not a substitute for physical distancing.)*

NOTE: If an employer chooses to provide or the employee supplies their own N95 respirator, please fully consider all the potential OSHA requirements.

• Encourage those who are sick or at greater risk to stay home. This includes:
  – People with underlying medical conditions.
  – People who live with elderly people or those who are at risk.
  – People with upper respiratory or flu-like symptoms or who live with someone with these clinical symptoms.
  – People with COVID-19, people who live with someone with COVID-19, or who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
• Employers should educate employees to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19 and provide instructions on what to do if they develop symptoms. At a minimum, any worker should immediately notify their supervisor, their health care provider, and the local health department, who will provide guidance on what actions need to be taken.

Training
• Implement and inform employees of supportive workplace policies as applicable:
  – Flexible sick leave policies consistent with public health guidance. Providing paid sick leave is an important way to encourage employees to stay home when sick.
  – Consider not requiring a COVID-19 test result or a healthcare provider's note for employees who are sick to validate their illness in order to qualify for sick leave. If you do require a doctor’s note from your employees to verify that they are healthy and able to return to work, be aware that healthcare provider offices and medical facilities may be extremely busy and not able to provide such documentation in a timely manner. Get more information related to the Americans with Disabilities Act during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  – Flexibility to stay home to care for a sick family member.
  – Human resources policies consistent with public health guidance, and state and federal workplace laws. For more information on employer responsibilities, visit the Department of Labor’s and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s websites.
  – Employee assistance program and community resources to help employees manage stress and receive support.
  – Encourage employees at increased risk for severe illness to request special accommodations to allow them to perform their job duties safely while also protecting sensitive employee health information.
• Post signs and reminders at entrances and in strategic places providing instruction on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette. This
should include signs with images for non-English readers, as needed.

- Provide instruction and training to employees on how to:
  - Properly put on and remove gloves if used (e.g. food handling, disinfecting).
  - Clean and disinfect surfaces according to product specifications.
  - Correctly use face coverings and/or respirators.
- Provide Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for cleaning and disinfection products and ensure employees are aware of the hazards of use. Incorporate new hazards into existing OSHA Hazard Communications Program.
- Employees should receive, at minimum, awareness training on cleaning and disinfection products used in the workplace following OSHA Hazard Communication Standards. For employees who will use cleaning and disinfecting products, training should also include proper use, PPE, disposal, and all precautionary measures.
- If advice is needed, AIHA Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) Science Professionals and industrial hygienists have expertise in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and training. AIHA has a consultants list of such qualified professionals.

Waste and Laundering

- Single-use items and used disinfection materials can be treated as regular waste, following regular safety guidelines.
- Any reused cloth materials (e.g. face coverings, aprons, uniforms, etc.) should be washed and dried on the highest temperature setting allowable for the fabric.
- Deeper cleaning and disinfecting protocols should be developed and implemented in cases where confirmed cases of COVID-19 are discovered. Refer to AIHA’s Workplace Cleaning for COVID-19.

Communication

- Communicate to patrons what the retail establishment is doing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- Consider using websites, social media, email, or point of electronic sale to communicate to patrons the current protocols and procedures in place as well as any restrictions or requirements for patrons while at the venue (e.g., disinfection routine, health policies for employees, and health and safety measures in place).
- Consider communicating to customers when visiting the venue may not be a good option (e.g., taking care of someone who is COVID-19 positive, exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, being in a high-risk category, etc.).
- Communicate that the venue has the right to refuse service to anyone exhibiting symptoms or not following guidelines (e.g., physical distancing).

What should an Employee do to protect themselves and patrons?

- Employees should evaluate their health continuously; if they are sick, have a fever or symptoms, or someone at home is sick, then they should remain home. NOTE: Employer HR Policies, HIPAA guidelines and other laws should be followed at all times.
- Depending on local requirements, in alignment with CDC recommendations, wear a cloth or disposable (or better if you have it) face covering at minimum whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained (indoors or outdoors). Ensure the face covering is properly maintained and cleaned. Additional information on cloth face coverings can be found on CDC’s website. (NOTE: Cloth or disposable face coverings primarily protect other people. A cloth or disposable face covering is not a substitute for physical distancing.)
With the exception of children less than two, and individuals who have difficulty breathing, are unconscious, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance, CDC recommends that all people wear a cloth or disposable face covering in public settings and when around people who don’t live in their household, especially when other physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Non-medical cloth or disposable face coverings or cloth or disposable face coverings are NOT Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), but they do offer some protection to others and should be worn while near other people in common spaces or shared workspaces. They are not a substitute for physical distancing, engineering controls, cleaning and disinfecting, proper hygiene, or staying home while sick.

Remove cloth or disposable face coverings correctly and wash hands after handling or touching a used face covering.

Wash cloth face coverings after each use. Cloth face coverings can be included with regular laundry. Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the face covering. Use the highest heat setting and leave in the dryer until completely dry. If air drying, lay flat and allow to completely dry. If possible, place in direct sunlight.

Let your employer know if you have concerns about personal protective equipment (PPE) that may be provided to you and that you are properly instructed on how to use it. The CDC has recommended sequences for donning and doffing PPE.

Maintain good hygiene practices (washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or a hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol). For more information, refer to CDC’s handwashing guidelines.

At minimum, wash your hands after you have been in a public place, after touching your face covering, after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, after using the restroom, after touching any common contact surfaces, and before eating. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

If an employee tests positive for COVID-19:

– Stay home and isolate until cleared for physical return to the workplace by your medical provider, following the CDC’s Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings.
– Contact your supervisor and report your results as soon as possible.
– Notify your supervisor about others in the workplace with whom you came into contact.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and throw used tissues in the trash. If you don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands. Immediately wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. Learn more about coughing and sneezing etiquette.

Worker Rights

AIHA believes that basic protections are worker rights, as well as an essential ingredient of occupational health and safety systems, and that employers must provide a safe and healthful work environment.

What can a Customer do to minimize the transmission of COVID-19?

– If you are sick, stay home. If you have a temperature, stay home. If someone in your house is sick, stay home. If you have allergies and can’t control sneezing, stay home.

– Wear a cloth or disposable face covering as you enter and leave the building. Face coverings worn within the venue should be done so responsibly.

– Wash your hands routinely.
• If you or someone in your home is sick or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, stay home.

• Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and throw used tissues in the trash. If you don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands. Immediately wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. Learn more about coughing and sneezing etiquette.

Resources

• EPA has developed a list of disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2

• ASHRAE has a list of COVID-19 resources for addressing HVAC challenges in workplaces during the pandemic

• AIHA’s Indoor Environmental Quality Committee developed this guidance documents about reopening after closures due to COVID-19

• AIHA’s Indoor Environmental Quality Committee developed this guidance documents about cleaning buildings before reopening after closures due to COVID-19

• Center for Disease Control Proper PPE Sequence

• CDC Health Screening “Should we be screening employees for COVID-19 symptoms?” section of General Business Frequently Asked Questions

• American Gaming Association

• National Association of Theatre Owners

• AIHA’s Indoor Environmental Quality Committee developed these guidance documents about reopening and cleaning buildings after closures due to COVID-19: Recovering from COVID-19 Building Closures and Workplace Cleaning for COVID-19

• AIHA’s Considerations on the Safe Use of UVC Radiation

• AIHA’s Focus on Construction Health: COVID-19

• AIHA’s Effective and Safe Practices: Guidance for Custodians, Cleaning and Maintenance Staff

• AIHA’s Employers Guide to COVID-19 Cleaning & Disinfection in Non-Healthcare Workplaces

• AIHA’s Reducing Risk of COVID-19 Using Engineering Controls

• AIHA’s PPE for SARS-CoV-2

• AIHA’s Use of Real Time Detection Systems

• AIHA’s Proper Use of Respirators for Healthcare Workers & First Responders

• AIHA’s Workers Rights White Paper
AIHA®

AIHA is the association for scientists and professionals committed to preserving and ensuring occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) in the workplace and community. Founded in 1939 as the American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA®), we support our members with our expertise, networks, comprehensive education programs and other products and services that help them maintain the highest professional and competency standards. More than half of AIHA’s nearly 8,500 members are Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIH), and many hold other professional designations. AIHA serves as a resource for those employed across the public and private sectors, as well as to the communities in which they work. For more information, visit AIHA.org.

About Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Professionals

Occupational and Environmental health and safety (OEHS) professionals (also known as industrial hygienists) practice the science of anticipating, recognizing, evaluating, controlling and confirming workplace conditions that may cause workers’ injury or illness. Through a continuous improvement cycle of planning, doing, checking and acting, OEHS professionals make sure workplaces are healthy and safe.

• Get additional resources at AIHA’s Coronavirus Outbreak Resource Center.
• Find a qualified industrial hygiene and OEHS professionals near you in our Consultants Listing.

Disclaimer

AIHA is not legally responsible and shall be held harmless from all claims, causes of action, and demands, whatsoever, any third party may incur on account of damage, loss or injury resulting from adhering to these guidelines.

These guidance documents were primarily developed for those smaller business that don’t have readily available occupational health and safety resources, and designed to help business owners, employers, employees and consumers implement science-backed procedures for limiting the spread of the coronavirus. They are subject to any local, state, or federal directives, laws, or orders about operating a business and should only be used if they do not conflict with any such orders.

These documents are subject to revision and shall be updated accordingly.

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