

Safe Operating Guidance for Small Farm Businesses During COVID-19

> Karen Ullmann WSDA Regional Markets Program Education and Outreach Coordinator

Agriculture and food production is an essential industry that feeds our communities and serves a vital role in the state's economy.

- Derek Sandison, WSDA Director

We are in uncharted territory that requires creativity and flexibility, but that is nothing new for Washington's farmers, food processors, and food distributors.

- Governor Inslee

Use this <u>online form</u> if you have questions about Essential Businesses.

Agenda





COVID Transmission Strawberry Commission Poster

COVID-19 Transmission

- Most commonly spread person-toperson through respiratory droplets
- Possible to transmit by touching a contaminated surface and then touching your mouth, eyes or nose
- Asymptomatic people can transmit COVID-19

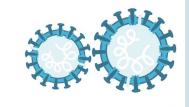
CORE MITIGATION STRATEGIES:

(1) Social distancing(2) Frequent and adequate hand washing(3) Sanitation of high touch surfaces

The virus usually spreadsThefrom CLOSE PERSON-THETO-PERSON CONTACTTRAthrough respiratorydrodroplets from coughingeveand sneezing.leave

The virus may also spread THROUGH AIRBORNE TRANSMISSION, when tiny droplets remain in the air even after the ill person leaves the area.

Only **DESIGNATED LABORATORY TESTS** can diagnose the virus.







6 FEET

SYMPTOMS MAY DEVELOP WITHIN 14 DAYS OF EXPOSURE to the illness.

No Evidence of Foodborne Illness



- CDC, USDA and FDA are not aware of any reports at this time of human illnesses that suggest COVID-19 can be transmitted by food or food packaging.
- No current evidence to support transmission of the virus directly by eating
- Coronaviruses need a living host (animal or human) to grow in and cannot grow in food

3 hours



24 hours

4 hours





Aerosol and surface stability of HCoV-19 (SARS-CoV-2) compared to SARS-CoV-1
 Study reveals how long COVID-19 remains on cardboard, metal and plastic

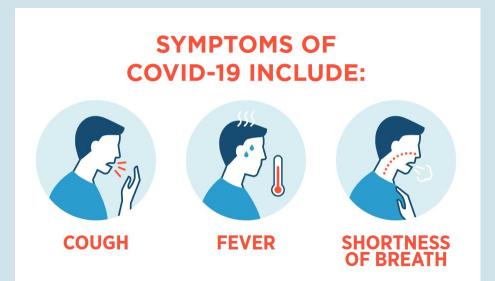






Monitor Family and Employee Health Closely





Also: muscle pain, diarrhea, sore throat, loss of smell, and abdominal pain

Managing Stress During COVID

- Take breaks from watching, reading and listening to news stories
- Take care of your body
- Take time to unwind and do activities you enjoy
- Connect with others you trust

Review Your Sick Leave Policy



- Talk to your employees about signs and symptoms
- Explain this is not the time to "tough it out"
- Tell employees to stay home if they are sick
- Get informed about state and federal sick leave policies and reimbursements. Start here with <u>WA State Employment Security Department</u>.
- More resources:
 - OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
 - <u>CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and</u> <u>Employers to Plan and Respond to COVID-19</u>
 - <u>University of Vermont Farm Employee</u>
 <u>Commitments</u>



Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.



Cough or sneeze into a tissue or flexed elbow, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.



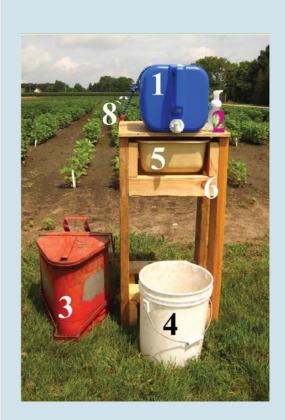
Avoid close contact with people who are sick, sneezing or coughing.



Stay home when you are sick.

Provide Handwashing Stations







- How to Build a Handwashing Station
- WSDA When and How to Wash Hands On-Farm Poster
- <u>CDC When and How to Wash Your Hands</u>
- Produce Safety Alliance: Everyone Should Wash Their Hands Video

Providing Handwashing Sanitizer



If handwashing with soap and water is not available and hands are not visibly dirty, <u>an alcohol-based sanitizer with at</u> <u>least 60% may be used</u>.





COVID-19 PREVENTATIVE MEASURES HOMEMADE HAND SANITIZER

In the absence of the availability of commercial hand sanitizers, the World Health Organization recommends the following recipe for homemade hand sanitizer as part of their COVID-19 response. These ingredients can typically be found at drugstores and some supermarkets.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Small spray bottle
- 1 tablespoon of 3% hydrogen peroxide
- 1 teaspoon of 98% glycerin
- Isopropyl alcohol and sterile distilled or boiled cold water in ONE of the following combinations:
- 1 cup + 2 tablespoons of 99% isopropyl alcohol PLUS 1/4 cup + 1 teaspoon water
- 1 cup + 3 tablespoons of 91% isopropyl alcohol PLUS 2 tablespoons + 2 and 1/2 teaspoons water

USING HAND SANITIZER

To use, spray on all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

WHAT TO DO

- Pour alcohol into a medium container, ideally with a pouring spout
- 2 Add hydrogen peroxide, then glycerin and stir
- 3 Measure and add water

Sanitize spray bottles by adding in a small amount of leftover alcohol, swirling around and allowing to air dry

5 Fill bottle with solution and label clearly with contents.

Homemade Hand Sanitizer Western Regional Center

Providing Gloves



- Gloves do NOT replace proper hand washing practices
- Clean and sanitize reusable gloves •
- Dispose of single-use glove immediately
- Prioritize gloves for hazardous activities such as working with chemicals
- Continue to follow your existing food safety practices

How to Remove Gloves

To protect yourself, use the following steps to take off gloves

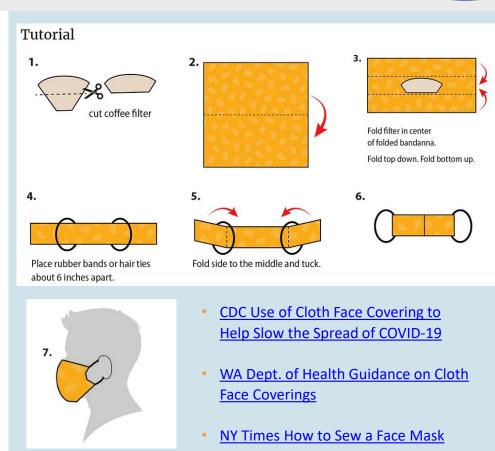


CDC How to Remove Gloves

Providing Face Masks

WSDA

- CDC and WA DOH now recommend that people wear cloth face coverings in public
- Not a substitute for physical distancing
- Reduces the release of infectious particles into the air
- Surgical masks are in short supply and should be reserved for healthcare workers



Face Mask Best Practices



- Clean your hands before putting your mask on.
- Place your mask by looping it around your ears & make sure it fits snuggle at the bridge of your nose & extends over your chin
- Clean your hands after putting it on
- Do not touch the mask at all from the time you put it on until the time you take it off.
- When you take it off, clean your hands first, then, while leaning over, carefully unhook it from your ears, careful not to touch the outside of it. Clean your hands afterward.
- Put it in the washing machine immediately. Clean your hands again.
- You should have a few of them to rotate through

Training & Signage Reinforcement



CDC Posters in Multiple Languages

Steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW: If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19, follow the steps below to help protect other people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

 Stay home: Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and are able to recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.

 Stay in touch with your doctor. Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.

Avoid public transportation: Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people in your home, this is known as home isolation

Stay away from others: As much as possible, stay away from others. You should stay in a specific "sick room" if possible, and away from other people in your home. Use a separate bathroom, if available.

- See COVID-19 and Antmals ts you have questions about pets. https://www.odc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq. html#COVID19antmals

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

Call ahead: Many medical visits for routine care are being postponed or done by nhone or telemedicine

· If you have a medical appointment that cannot be postponed, call your doctor's office, and tell them you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the office protect themselves and other patients.



If you are sick wear a facemask in the following situations, if available. - If you are slot: You should wear a facemask, if available, when you are around other people (including before you enter a healthcare provider's office).

If you are caring for others: If the person who is stick is not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then as their caregiver, you should wear a facemask when in the same room with them. Visitors, other than caregivers, are not recommended.

Note: During a public health emergency, facemasks may be reserved for healthcare workers. You may need to improvise a facemask using a scarf or bandana.

Cover your coughs and sneezes Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.

Distory: Throw used tissues in a lined trash can

Wash hands: Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not sustishin class your hands with an alcohol-based hand santtiver that contains at least 60% alcohol

Clean your hands often



Hand sanitizer: If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand santitizer with at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them

Soap and water: Soap and water are the best option, espectally if hands are visibly dirty.

- Invoid touching: Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth

Avoid sharing personal household items

- Do not share: Do not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. Wash thoroughly after use: After using these

items, wash them thoroughly with soap and water or put in the dishwasher.

cdc.gov/coronavirus



Novel Coronavirus



What is novel coronavirus?

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new virus strain spreading from person-to-person in China and other countries, including the United States. In some instances, cases outside of China have been associated with travelers from China. Health experts are concerned because little is known about this new virus and it has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people.

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details. Currently, it is thought to spread:

- via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

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How severe is novel coronavirus?

Experts are still learning about the range of illness from novel coronavirus. Reported cases have ranged from mild illness (like a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions.

What are the symptoms?

People who have been diagnosed with novel corpnavirus have reported symptoms that may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus:







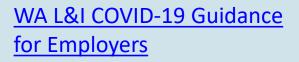
together until they feel dry.

with unwashed hands.

Guidance for Managing Sick Employees

- Notify your <u>local public health department</u> for guidance
- 2. Separate sick employees and send them home immediately
- 3. Follow <u>CDC Guidance Steps to Prevent the</u> <u>Spread of COVID-19 if You are Sick</u>
 - Monitor for worsening symptoms
 - Prevent the spread of germs
 - Provide food and water
 - Stay home and avoid public places
- 4. Implement a disinfection program
 - <u>CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility</u>
 - <u>Cornell Institute Food Safety SOP Action When Worker is Tested</u>

Washington State Depart Labor & Indus	ment of tries		ជា។	ome 👤 My L&I: Sign In S	earch L&I					
Safety & Health	Claims	Patient Care	Insurance	Workers' Rights	Licensing & Permits					
ne > <u>safety & Health</u> > D pics	SAFETY TOPICS	>								
SAFETY TOPICS	СС	DVID-19 (Co	pronavirus	5)						
Search By Topic	Gov	The Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) requires employers to implement <u>the</u> <u>Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order</u> . Employers must ensure social distancing for employees and customers, frequent and adequate employee hand-washing, and that sick								
Industry	abor	employees and backfinet, require must also provide basic workplace hazard education about coronavirus and how to prevent transmission in languages best understood by employees. L&I does not currently require employers to have a written coronavirus								
Chemicals & Materials	5	transmission prevention plan.								
Machinery & Equipment		ng the COVID-19 par rkplace Discrim								
Environmental Hazard	ls agai	nst a worker for exe	rcising safety and	ike any adverse action su I health rights such as ra n union activities concer	ising safety and health					
Biological				int or participating in a D int with L&I DOSH and/or	•					











Redesign Farm Activities



- Use tape or measuring stick to demonstrate 6 foot distance
- Conduct remote using technology when possible
- Stagger shifts, breaks and areas working on the farm
- Limit sharing of tools and equipment



UVM Greenhouse SOP Hygiene and Sanitation Procedures

Limit Access to Farm and Packing Area



- Log all deliveries and on-farm entries
 - Leave deliveries without signatures
 - Utilize a visitor's log
 - Monitor personal travel
- Customer transactions on-farm
 - Clean areas customer access more frequently
 - Order in advance take to car of customer
 - Wear face masks and consider gloves and proper disposal when handling money, credit cards, or customer contact

Thank you for visiting - we are eager to help you.

If you suspect that you have been exposed to COVID-19 or have a fever, cough, or shortness of breath, please do NOT enter this office.

Instead, please call 000.000.0000 so that we can help you without exposing others. We appreciate your assistance in helping us implement CDC guidelines and wish you a speedy recovery with your symptoms.

Customer Communication

Communicate with your customers about how you are reinforcing public health measures in your operation.

Your customers should understand how to support your social distancing and risk reduction strategies.

- What procedures do they need to know?
- How are you communicating to customers?
 - Signage
 - Order form
 - CSA newsletter

Example Farm Stand Rules

- 1. No cash/check payments
- 2. One person at a time in the stand
- Only buy what you need for the week. We will stock daily so please don't hoard
- 4. Only handle what you are buying
- 5. Sanitizer your hands before shopping.



Contingency Planning

- 1. Identify critical tasks and cross train
- 2. Assign duties to vulnerable staff for remote work
- 3. Develop a plan for assigning tasks
- 4. Develop a communication plan
- 5. List key information such as supplier contacts, equipment and inventory notes
- 6. Plan for managing disruptions in production alternative suppliers, borrow supplies/equipment from other farms
- Seattle/King Co Planning for a Coronavirus Pandemic: A Guide for Businesses and Organizations
- <u>PSA Sustainable Agriculture COVID Readiness Assessment for Continuity of Farm Businesses</u>



Must continue on current schedule and/or capacity

- Soil prep and planting
- Harvest and pack lines
- Food safety programs

Continue but on a reduced schedule and/or capacity

- Scheduled maintenance*
- Crop care that cannot be done with social distancing

Discontinue until practical to start again or needs change_____

- In-person team meetings
- Farm tours
- Sales visits

Agenda





Identify Frequently Used Surfaces



Non-Food Contact Surfaces

Food Contact Surfaces

High Frequency Touch Points











NC STATE UNIVERSITY



Clean

Physical removal of soil and food residue from surfaces which can include the use of clean water and detergent.

Sanitize

Treatment of a cleaned surface to reduce the number of microorganisms of public health significance to a safe level within 1 minute.

Disinfect

Treatment of a cleaned surface to destroy or inactivate all infectious organisms on hard surfaces within 10 minutes.

All surfaces

Food contact surfaces (99.999% reduction) Non-food contact surfaces (99.9% reduction)

Non-food contact surfaces, high touch surfaces, incident with infected person

NC State Extension Online Workshop: Always Be Cleaning and Sanitizing

Common Disinfectants that Destroy COVID-19



• Bleach (Sodium Hypochlorite)

- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing: 5 tablespoons bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
- Bleach can lose efficacy
- <u>USDA Guidance for the Use of Chlorine Materials in</u> Organic Production and Handling
- **Isopropyl alcohol:** Alcohol solutions with at least 70% are effective. Do not dilute the alcohol solution
- **Hydrogen peroxide:** is typically sold in concentration of about 3%. It can be used at that concentration or diluted to about 0.5% concentration. It should be left on surfaces for one minute before wiping.

Best Practices

- 1. Clean surfaces first!
- 2. Not intended for food contact surfaces
- 3. Watch hazard warnings
- 4. Do not mix sanitizers



Adjust Use of Farm Sanitizer for Disinfection



UVM Ag Extension Engineering: A Guide to Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting

Product	Product Active Ingredients as Received		Labeled Concentration for <u>Sanitizing</u> Hard Surfaces	Labeled Concentration for Disinfecting Hard Surfaces	
Ultra Clorox Brand	6.0% sodium hypochlorite	25 ppm free chlorine	200 ppm	2700 ppm	
Regular Bleach		1/2 cup per 75 gallons	1 tbsp per 1 gallon of water.	¾ cup per gallon of water.	
		2 minute submersion time	2 minutes contact time.	5 minutes contact time.	
Sanidate 5.0	5.3% peroxyacetic acid (PAA)	27-96 ppm PAA	147-500 ppm PAA	230-1000 ppm PAA	
	and	59.1-209.5 fl. oz. per 1000	1.6-5.4 fl. oz. per 5 gallons water.	0.5-2.2 fl. oz. per gallon of water.	
	23.0% hydrogen peroxide	gallons of water	2 minutes contact time.	10 minutes contact time.	
Tsunami 100	15.2% peroxyacetic acid (PAA)	30-80 ppm PAA	150-270 ppm PAA	Not Labeled	
	and	2.5-6.7 fl. oz. per 100 gallons	1.0-1.8 ounces (product) per 8		
	11.2% hydrogen peroxide	of water	gallons of water		
			1 minute contact time.		
Vigorox SP-15	15.0% peroxyacetic acid (PAA)	45 ppm PAA	85 ppm PAA and 57 ppm	800 ppm PAA and 530 ppm	
	and	0.54 fl. oz. per 16 gallons of	hydrogen peroxide	hydrogen peroxide.	
	10.0% hydrogen peroxide	water	3.1 fluid ounces per 50 gallons	3.0 fluid ounces of the product	
			of water.	per 5 gallons of potable water.	
			1 minute contact time.	5 minutes contact time.	

• EPA List N: <u>https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2</u>

USDA Allowed Detergents and Sanitizers for Food Contact Surfaces and Equipment in Organic Operations

EPA List N: Disinfectants for SARS-CoV-2



LIST N: Products with Emerging and Viral Pathogens AND Human Coronavirus Claims

EPA Registration Number	Active Ingredient(s)	Product Name	Company	Follow the disinfection directions and preparation for the following virus	Contact Time (in minutes)	Formulation Type	Surface Types for Use	Use Site	Emerging Viral Pathogen Claim?	Date Added to List N
84683-3	Thymol	Benefect Botanical Daily Cleaner Disinfectant Spray	Cleanwell LLC	Rhinovirus	10	RTU	Hard nonporous	Healthcare; Institutional; Residential	Yes	04/02/2020
88897-2	Quaternary ammonium; Isopropanol; Ethanol	Panther Disinfectant	Maxill Inc	Adenovirus; Feline calicivirus	3	RTU	Hard nonporous	Healthcare; Institutional	Yes	04/02/2020
42048-4	L-Lactic Acid	Sani-Cide EX3 (10X) RTU	Celeste Industries Corp	Feline calicivirus	10	RTU	Hard nonporous	Institutional	Yes	04/02/2020
66171-7	Quaternary ammonium; Glutaraldehyde	Synergize	Preserve International	Feline calicivirus	10	Dilutable	Hard nonporous	Institutional	Yes	04/02/2020
85837-4	Hydrogen peroxide	Proxi Home General Disinfectant	Innovasource LLC	Rhinovirus	10	RTU	Hard nonporous	Healthcare; Institutional; Residential	Yes	04/02/2020

ODA Effective Disinfectants to Help Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) on Food Contact Surfaces:

Short list of brand name, EPA registration, and product type that may be more accessible in the PNW.

Suggested Cleaning and Sanitation Frequency



		Produce Safety Alliance Record Keeping Template								
Clean	Everyday and before sanitizing and disinfecting surfaces	Cleaning and Sanitizing Record Template Name and address of farm: List the date, time, tool or equipment name, and method for each cleaning or sanitizing activity.								
		Date	Time	List tools/equipment	Cleaned and/or Sanitized?	Method used	Cleaned By (initials)			
Constitutes	Food contact surfaces:	10/11/16	10:07 AM	Harvest tools	cleaned	See Cleaning SOP (Removed dirt with brush, washed with detergent, rinsed, air dried)	EAB			
	once per day. Non-food contact:	10/11/16	10:30 AM	Dump Tank	cleaned and sanitized	See Dump Tank Cleaning and Sanitizing SOP (drained tank, washed with detergent, rinsed, sanitized with 150 ppm NaOCI)	EAB			
Sanitize	surfaces: daily, weekly,									
	monthly									
Disinfect										
	At least twice per day for									
	high touch surfaces	<u>Cornell In</u>	stitute	for Food S	afety: S	SOP for Cleaning/Sanitizing Frequently Touche	<u>· Touched Surfaces</u>			
		CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility								

Agenda







Maintain food safety practices already in place

- 1. Food safety is still critical and important
- 2. Foodborne risks still exist
- 3. Regulatory requirements still in effect

Examples:

- Food packaging material: Only use new or clean packaging for produce
- Provide clean and potable water
- Use no-touch waste baskets and dispose of items
- Minimize cross-contamination from farm animals

Review and More Resources



Objectives for Reducing Transmission:

- (1) Social distancing(2) Frequent and adequate hand washing(3) Sanitation of high touch surfaces
- WSDA Regional Markets Small Farm COVID-19
- <u>WA State Farmers Market Association and WA DOH Retail Food</u> <u>Guidelines</u>
- <u>WSU Food Systems COVID19 Hub</u>
- WA Young Farmers Coalition COVID for Farms



C0VID-19 Webinar Series Best Practices for Small Farms | Farmers Markets | Community Garden

April 6th: Best Practices for Community Gardens During COVID-19 11 am PST / 12 pm MST



April 13th: Best Practices at Farmers Markets and Farm Stands During COVID-19 11 am PST / 12 pm MST



April 21st: Getting Started with CSA 11 am PST / 12 pm MST

April 21st: Best Practices for Farm Deliveries, Pick-up & CSA During COVID-19 1 pm PST / 2 pm MST



To register and view the full webinar schedule: <u>https://www.cultivatingsuccess.org/webinar-series</u>

Questions? email cdephelps@uidaho.edu



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cultivatingsuccess.org/webinar-series

Thank You



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