



**Environmental Health Safety
& Risk Management**

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COVID-19 PREVENTION: ENHANCED CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS

In alignment with public health recommendations, NMSU is taking measures to prevent community spread of COVID-19, which includes undertaking enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures. This protocol establishes enhanced cleaning and disinfection protocols for NMSU units to follow during the pandemic. EHS&RM has consolidated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the New Mexico Department of Health for cleaning and disinfection

1. [Enhanced cleaning for prevention](#)
2. [Enhanced cleaning and disinfection after notification of a confirmed case of COVID-19](#)

ENHANCED CLEANING FOR PREVENTION – All Units/Departments

A. General guidance:

- i. Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting, **focusing on high-touch surfaces**, such as residence hall communal rooms, public restrooms, exercise rooms, library tables, buttons, handrails, tables, faucets, doorknobs, shared toys, and shared keyboards. Cleaning and disinfecting daily and between users for shared workstations with attention to these areas helps remove bacteria and viruses, including the novel coronavirus.
- ii. Practice good hand hygiene after cleaning (and always):
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If soap and warm water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

B. Safety guidelines during cleaning and disinfection:

- i. Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting. Gloves should be discarded after each use. Clean hands immediately after gloves are removed.
- ii. Wear eye protection when there is a potential for splash or splatter to face.
- iii. Gowns or aprons are recommended to protect personal clothing.
- iv. Store chemicals in labeled, closed containers. Keep them in a secure area away from children and food. Store them in a manner that prevents tipping or spilling.

C. Cleaning and disinfection of surfaces:

- i. Clean surfaces and objects that are visibly soiled first. If surfaces are dirty to sight or touch, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- ii. Clean and disinfect surfaces as soon as possible in areas where a person with respiratory symptoms (e.g., coughing, sneezing) was present.

- iii. Use an EPA-registered disinfectant for use against the novel coronavirus. Refer to the list of [products pre-approved](#) for use against emerging enveloped viral pathogens, or the list of [disinfectants](#) for use against SARSCoV-2.
- iv. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe and effective use of all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., dilution concentration, application method and contact time, required ventilation, and use of personal protective equipment). Review the [COVID-19 Chemical Disinfectant Safety Information](#) guide to potential health hazards and the recommended protective measures for common active disinfectant agents.
- v. Consult manufacturer recommendations on cleaning products appropriate for electronics. If no guidance is available, consider the use of alcohol-based wipes or spray containing at least 70% alcohol. Use of alcohol-based products may reduce risk of damage to sensitive machine components. Whenever possible, consider using wipeable covers for electronics. Dry surfaces thoroughly to avoid pooling of liquids.
- vi. The following products are effective for disinfection of hard, non-porous surfaces:
 - A 10% diluted bleach solution. Prepare a 10% diluted bleach solution by doing the following:
 - Mix five tablespoons of bleach per gallon of water.
 - After application, allow 2 minutes of contact time before wiping, or allow to air dry (without wiping).
 - An alcohol solution with at least 70% alcohol
 - An [EPA-registered disinfectant](#) for use against COVID19.
- vii. For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes:
 - Remove visible contamination (if present) and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.
 - After cleaning, launder items (as appropriate) in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely.
 - If laundering is not possible, use an EPA-registered disinfectant for use against COVID-19. Refer to the list of [products pre-approved](#) for use against emerging enveloped viral pathogens, or the list of [disinfectants](#) for use against SARS-CoV-2.
- viii. If a COVID-19 case is confirmed in NMSU community, University entities are required to follow the guidance *Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection after Notification of a Confirmed Case of COVID-19* outlined in this document.

ENHANCED CLEANING AND DISINFECTION AFTER NOTIFICATION OF A CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

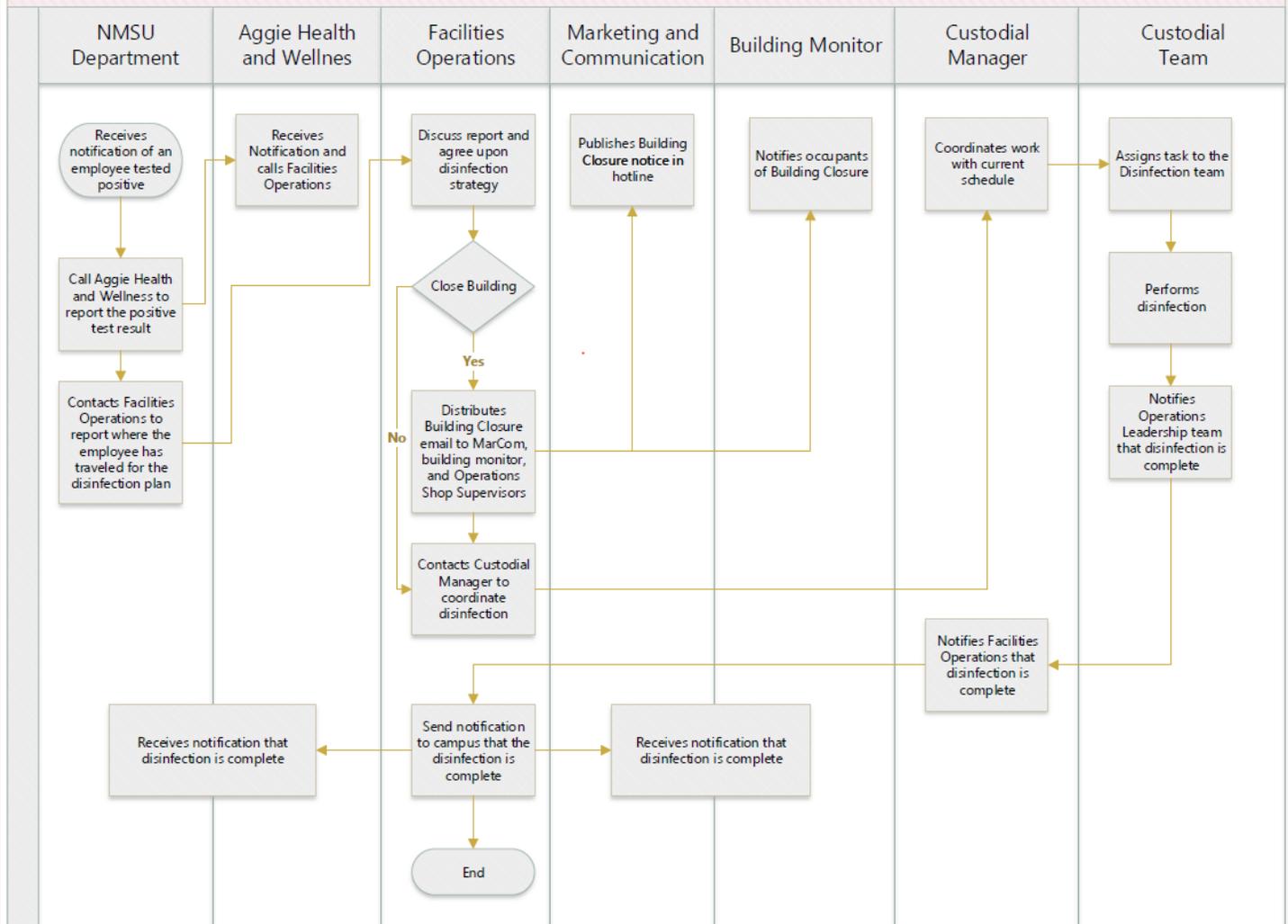
This protocol is for cleaning and disinfection of areas where a person with COVID-19 spent time in University spaces. It is applied *from 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms until seven days have passed* since the person was present in a University space.

After notification of a person with confirmed COVID-19 on a NMSU facility, the following cleaning and disinfecting protocol will be followed. See [NMSU COVID-19 BUILDING DISINFECTION PROCESS FLOWCHART](#)

NMSU COVID-19 BUILDING DISINFECTION PROCESS FLOWCHART

NMSU COVID-19 Building Disinfection Process

May 29, 2020



- 1) Buildings and/or specific rooms and areas where a COVID-19 positive person spent time will be assessed. If it has been more than 7 days since the person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- 2) The scope of cleaning will be implemented based on the risk of potential contamination as determined by facilities operations lead in collaboration with the affected department head/supervisor on a case-by-case basis. EHS&RM available to consult as needed.
 - a) Identify which facilities need disinfection based on the traffic patterns and areas occupied by individuals that test positive.
 - b) Enhanced cleaning and disinfection will be deployed to areas occupied by the positive test person from 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms or positive test result.
 - c) If it has been more than 7 days since the person with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- C. Department will communicate the scope of cleaning to NMSU facility operation lead or supervisor responsible for cleaning.

- a. Phone notification local facilities manager is needed to rapidly initiate enhanced cleaning and disinfection. If disinfection occurs outside normal business hours, building closure will not be needed. Follow up confirmation of cleaning should be communicated via email with copy to AHCW.
 - b. If the building must be closed during regular operational hours, coordination and notification to the building occupants and campus would be required. In addition to building closure signs posted at each entrance, a notice is sent to occupants of building and others to inform of any delay or change in building operation. For notification templates, see protocol: NMSU Reporting of COVID-19 and Notifications.
 - c. If the building can be disinfected, prior to regular scheduled time for occupancy, no notice is required.
- D. Facilities operations/cleaning crew will:
- a. Coordinate with building coordinators/managers. Identify areas that require restricted access during and immediately following enhanced cleaning. And post those area to prevent entry.
 - b. When cleaning and disinfecting rooms with increased surface area due to a large numbers of desks, tables, and other furniture, and where a spray application of disinfectant is needed, Facilities will notify the building monitor in advance if the spraying will occur during normal work hours. Advance notice allows the building occupants to be apprised of the schedule for disinfection of the space and any areas that may require restricted access during cleaning.
 - c. Follow the *Enhanced Cleaning for Prevention* guidance outlined in this document.
 - d. Open windows to the outside or use ventilation system to increase air circulation, if possible.
 - e. If possible, wait 24 hours after the ill person was present in a space prior to beginning cleaning and disinfection.
 - f. If an outside contractor is used for cleaning and disinfection, the proposed scope of work, including the products and their respective safety data sheets (SDSs), and application methods must be reviewed by EHS &RM prior to work commencing.
- E. Wear required personal protective equipment (PPE) during cleaning and disinfecting (no exceptions). The above cleaning tasks can be undertaken by facilities staff trained in cleaning products and use.
- i. Disposable gloves, gowns or a lab coat to protect contamination of clothing
 - ii. Safety glasses/goggles when there is a potential for splashing/spraying the disinfectant
 - iii. All staff must be fully trained on donning and doffing required PPE to prevent cross contamination.
- F. Review the [COVID-19 Chemical Disinfectant Safety Information](#) guide to potential health hazards and the recommended protective measures for common active disinfectant agents.

RESOURCES

[CDC response plans for Institutions of Higher Education](#)

[CDC recommendations for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 in healthcare settings](#)

[CDC recommendations for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 in households](#)

[CDC cleaning and disinfecting to slow spread of flu](#)

[New-Mexico-Department-of-Health-COVID-19-Guide-to-Managing-Facilities-and-Shelters](#)

[CDC Cleaning and Disinfection After Persons Suspected/Confirmed to Have COVID-19 Have Been in the Facility](#)

[Persistence of Coronaviruses on Inanimate Surfaces and their Inactivation with Biocidal agents](#)

[University of Washington Environmental Health & Safety](#)