

## COVID-19 Disinfecting Vehicles

The COVID-19 virus is spread by inhaling airborne virus particles or touching them on a surface and transferring them into your body through your eyes, nose or mouth when you touch your face. An infected person introduces the viruses into the environment when they talk, cough or sneeze. The particles may briefly hang in the air and/or land on a nearby surface. Social distancing reduces the chances of inhaling the airborne virus by keeping away from someone who is potentially infected and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces helps prevent accidentally contaminating your fingers with the virus. To prevent this type of transmission any surface that is touched by multiple people should be frequently disinfected. If vehicles are shared by employees or visitors, make sure you frequently wipe down the following areas and any other places on the vehicle that may have been touched:

Door Handles	Steering Wheels	Seat Belts
Seat Belt Buckle	Gear Shift	Radio Knobs
Turn Signals	Seats	Door Release Switch
Rear View Mirror	Seat Height Adjustment Buttons	Side Mirror Adjustment Buttons

Bleach wipes and alcohol-based disinfectants (at least 60% alcohol) can be used to wipe down these locations. If they are not available, here are some alternatives:

1. Hand Soap and Dish Soap: bars of hand soap, liquid hand soap and dish soap will all kill the virus. Soapy water can be applied to surfaces with a rag or towel to disinfect the vehicle.
2. Bleach: Mixing 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of a cup of regular household bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons per quart of water creates a disinfectant that can be used on surfaces to kill the corona virus. Mix the water and bleach into a spray bottle, shake it vigorously and then spray it onto a surface and let it sit for several minutes before wiping it off. Wear gloves when spraying the solution and wiping it off to prevent skin irritation.

If you don't have any of the above-mentioned items do not mix cleaning chemicals to make a disinfectant as this can create very toxic and dangerous gases.

The COVID-19 virus will live a maximum of three days on a surface. If a vehicle has been occupied by someone with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 and can't be disinfected, it should be locked and left alone for at least 3 days. This will be long enough to kill any virus that is potentially on a surface.

### Preventative Measures

Social distancing can be practiced in vehicles. Minimize the number of people in one vehicle as much as feasible. If there are two occupants of a vehicle and there is a back row of seats have the passenger sit in the back row. When feasible, have employees use the same vehicles each day rather than rotate vehicles.