



BC Forest Safety



SURFACE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Table of Contents

1.0 Hygiene Practices.....	3
2.0 During cleaning / disinfection.....	4
3.0 PPE, Equipment and First Aid for Working with Bleach	4
4.0 PPE	5
5.0 BC Poison Control 24-Hour Line	5



1.0 Hygiene Practices

Cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces should be used on worksites to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

Regularly clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces. This includes but is not limited to:

- Tabletops
- Control panels & buttons / HMI Screens
- Computer / keyboard / mouse
- Doorknobs
- Light switches
- Handles
- Bathrooms
- Crew vehicles (mirrors, hand brakes, radio controls, seatbelts, windows and all high-touch areas)
- Steering wheels
- Eating areas
- Pens
- Hoist gates
- Stair railings
- First aid equipment
- Switches / toggles / levers
- Block gates

Cleaning and disinfection should be done at a minimum, once a day but preferably as often as possible and at a minimum at the beginning of shift, between crew changes, end of shift.

Avoid sharing tools and pens. Disinfect any shared items before sharing.

CLEANING: Removes visible soiling (e.g., dust, soil). Cleaning removes rather than kills viruses and bacteria. It is done with water, detergents, and steady friction from cleaning cloth.

DISINFECTING: Kills viruses and bacteria. A disinfectant is only applied to objects, never on the human body. All visibly soiled surfaces should be cleaned before disinfection.

Most cleaning can be done using regular housekeeping best practices.

What products should be used for disinfection

- Household or commercial disinfection products (follow manufacturer's instructions or safety data sheet (SDS) for disinfection), or household bleach with 5% sodium hypochlorite. Dilute bleach in water. Use 42ml (3 tablespoons) bleach per litre of water.
- Do not mix bleach with ammonia or any other cleaning product.
- If the surface is dirty remove visible dust and debris and clean using detergent or soap prior to disinfection.
- Follow disinfection product manufacturer's instructions for disinfection.
- Spray the disinfectant on a cloth and wipe the surface. Do not spray the disinfectant directly on equipment or screens.
- Wear nitrile or neoprene gloves while working with disinfectant products.
- Health Canada provides a list of commercial disinfectant products that can be used for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html



2.0 During cleaning/disinfection

- If the surface is dirty remove visible dust and debris and clean using detergent or soap prior to disinfection.
- Carefully follow the instructions for disinfection provided by the product manufacturer or on the SDS while disinfecting surfaces.
- Spray disinfectant on a cloth and wipe the surface. Do not spray the disinfectant directly on equipment or screens.
- Frequently change the mop, sponge, rag, cloth and/or disposable towel being used to avoid cross-contamination between surfaces.
- Do not use the same mop/sponge/rag/cloth and/or disposable towel for both cleaning and disinfection.
- Ideally use disposable wipes/towels for disinfection.
- Wear nitrile, neoprene or other gloves identified by the manufacturer or SDS while working with disinfectant products.

After cleaning/disinfection

- Wash hands with soap and water using proper handwashing procedures immediately after gloves are removed.
- All disposable materials must be placed into a leak proof garbage bag and sealed for disposal. (Zip Lock bags work well to seal soiled materials).

Housekeeping

- Regular housekeeping practices should be maintained in addition to surface cleaning/disinfection.
- Do not sweep dust, use a vacuum.
- Keep your vehicle and equipment clean and free of clutter.
- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. If reusable gloves are used, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other purposes.

Cleaning/Sanitation Kit

- Bucket or container to hold supplies
- Waterproof gloves & safety eye wear
- Cloth, rags or disposable towels
- Disinfectant or bleach solution in spray bottle (1 part bleach to 9 parts water)
- Clean water
- Large Zip Lock bags (for disposal or soiled cleaning cloth)

3.0 PPE, Equipment and First Aid for Working with Bleach or Other Sanitizing/Disinfecting Products

Review the SDS for the product follow their first aid and PPE requirements. Below are some generic PPE, equipment and first aid suggestions that will apply to bleach and many sanitizing/disinfecting products. Use these procedures in conjunction with a WHMIS program. Cleaning should be carried out by appropriately knowledgeable and instructed workers.



Some common precautions (refer to manufacturer’s instructions and SDS):

- Mix bleach with water in a well-ventilated area.
- Do not mix bleach with other cleaning products. Avoid mixing cleaning products with other cleaning products.
- Store bleach and other cleaning products in a secure, cool, dry place. Keep away from direct sunlight and heat. Close cap tightly after use.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while working with cleaning products.

4.0 PPE

- Chemical goggles, splash guard or safety glasses with side shields.
- Chemical resistant gloves – nitrile or neoprene.
- Steel toed chemical resistant work boots.
- Long sleeved shirts and pants.
- N95 mask or ½ mask respirator (for First Aider).
- Face shield (for First Aider).
- Medical gloves (for First Aider).

Other equipment and items required

- Safety Data Sheets.
- Eyewash unit capable of providing 15-minute rinse.
- Means to flush skin for a minimum of 15 minutes.
- Hand washing station (water and soap) or hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol).
- Disposable paper or single-use cloth towels.

5.0 BC Poison Control 24-Hour Line

(604) 682-5050 or toll-free 1-800-567-8911

FIRST AID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aider may require PPE prior to beginning treatment.
INHALATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove worker to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. • If breathing is affected, call BC Poison Control, emergency services, or a doctor.
INGESTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call BC Poison Control or doctor immediately for treatment advice. • Do not induce vomiting unless told to do so by a poison control centre or doctor. • Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.
EYE CONTACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold eye open and rinse slowly and gently with water for 15-20 minutes. • Remove contact lenses, if present, after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing eye. • Call BC Poison Control or doctor for treatment advice.
SKIN CONTACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take off contaminated clothing. • Rinse skin immediately with plenty of water for 15 – 20 minutes. • Call BC Poison Control or doctor for treatment advice.

See the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) for further information on working with chlorine bleach: www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/bleach.html