

OR-OSHA COVID-19 Jobsite Guidance for Construction Operations

All contractors should incorporate COVID-19 transmission and prevention into all job hazard analyses (JHAs) and pre-task safety planning for all aspects of the work. This tool is provided solely as a guideline for contractors and is not to be relied upon to prevent the spread or transmission of COVID-19 or prevent a safety violation from being issued by a jurisdictional authority. This is not legal advice. Contractors should continually evaluate the specific hazards at their job sites along with the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) recommendations](#) to determine the most appropriate job hazard analysis for the project/task as it relates to the spread and/or transmission of COVID-19.

Physical Distancing Measures

- **To ensure appropriate physical distancing, construction employers must do the following:**
 - Ensure that workers maintain at least six feet of physical distance between themselves and their co-workers on all construction sites, except as otherwise provided.
 - Limit work in occupied areas of a home or other structure to only those tasks that are strictly necessary.
 - When it is not practical to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet, ensure that workers remain separated to the largest degree practical and that the duration of such activity is kept as short as possible.
 - All contractors on site should communicate and coordinate to prohibit large gatherings of more than 10 people in one common location on the job site, such as rest breaks, all-hands meetings, and lunches.
 - Limit jobsite meetings and replace them with virtual or call-in meetings.
 - Construction employers are encouraged, but not required, to redesign workflow, including access to stairwells, floor levels, etc., to maximize distance between workers; one-way routes, if used, should include signage.

Employer Responsibilities

- **Advance Screening:** Each construction employer who controls access to a site must develop and implement a system to screen employees and visitors accessing the site using a pre-screening checklist consistent with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- **Exposure Risk Assessment:** No later than December 7, 2020, all employers must conduct a COVID-19 exposure risk assessment, without regard to the use of personal protective equipment, masks, face coverings, or face shields. If an employer has multiple facilities that are substantially similar, its assessment may be developed by facility type rather than site-by-site so long as any site-specific information that affects employee exposure risk to COVID-19 is included in the assessment.
 - AGC Oregon-Columbia Chapter will provide an **Exposure Risk Assessment** template to assist AGC members in completing this task.
- **Infection Control Plan:** No later than December 7, 2020, all employers must establish and implement an infection control plan based on the risks identified in the exposure risk assessment that implements the controls identified in the exposure risk assessment including, but not limited to, ventilation, staggered shifts, redesigning the workplace to accommodate physical distancing, reducing use of shared surfaces and tools, limiting the number of employees and other individuals in work areas, personal protective equipment, etc.

- AGC Oregon-Columbia Chapter will make a sample Infection Control Plan available to assist AGC members in completing this task.
- **Employee Information and Training:** No later than December 21, 2020, employers must provide workers with information and training regarding COVID-19. This information and training can be provided remotely or by using computer-based models, but must be provided in a manner and language understood by the affected workers.
 - AGC Oregon-Columbia Chapter will provide virtual COVID-19 training program to assist AGC members in completing this task.
- The employer must provide masks, face coverings, or face shields for employees at no cost to the worker. If an employee chooses to wear their own mask, face shield, or face covering instead of those provided by the employer, the employer may allow it.
- **Posting Requirements:** The *COVID-19 Hazards Poster*, provided by Oregon OSHA, must be posted in a conspicuous manner in a central location where workers can be expected to see it (for example, a location where employees report each day or at a location from which employees operate to carry out their activities). Employees working remotely must be provided with a copy of the *COVID-19 Hazards Poster* through electronic or equally effective means.
 - [COVID-19 Hazards Poster](#)
 - [COVID-19 Hazards Poster – Spanish](#)
- Attendance at safety meetings should be communicated verbally and the foreman/superintendent should sign in each attendee. Contractors should not pass around a sign-in sheet or mobile device to confirm attendance.

Worker Personal Responsibilities

- If employees have symptoms of acute respiratory illness (i.e., **fever, cough, shortness of breath**), they must stay home and not come to work until free of symptoms for at least 72 hours, without the use of medicine, or as recommended by the CDC. Refer to CDC guideline: [What To Do if You Are Sick](#).
- Employees must notify their supervisors and stay home if they are sick. They must consult medical attention if they develop symptoms of acute respiratory illness. Refer to CDC guideline: [What To Do if You Are Sick](#).
- Workers must wear a face covering where required.
- Workers must participate in and comply with all the employer's COVID-19 trainings, practices, and policies.

Face Coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **Masks, Face Coverings, and Face Shields.** To reduce the risk of transmission from potentially infected individuals, employers operating facilities must review and implement [OHA Statewide Mask, Face Covering, Face Shield Guidance](#); if at any point such guidance is no longer available, such employers must require all employees, patrons, and other visitors five years of age and older, unless they are eating or drinking, to wear masks, face coverings, or face shields in all indoor spaces, and in all outdoor spaces whenever at least six feet of physical distancing cannot be consistently ensured.
- In accordance with [Oregon Health Authority Statewide Mask, Face Covering, Face Shield Guidance](#) and subsection (3)(b) of the [Temporary Rule for COVID-19](#), it is strongly recommended but not required that individuals wear a mask or face covering as source control instead of a face shield alone.
- While reasonable accommodation for those unable to wear a mask, face covering, or face shield must be provided, such an accommodation does not include exempting individuals from the requirement to wear a mask, face covering, or face shield.

- When employees are transported in a vehicle for work purposes, regardless of the travel distance or duration involved, all occupants in the vehicle must wear a mask, face covering, or face shield unless employees are wearing respirators in accordance with the Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134).
 - This requirement does not apply when all occupants within the vehicle are members of the same household.
- Contractors should continue to provide and direct employees to wear N95 face masks or ½ mask cartridge respirators if required by the task. Face coverings may be required where the task does not require N95 face mask or ½ mask cartridge respirators and are not to be a substitute for social distancing.

Sanitation and Cleanliness

- The employer must regularly clean or sanitize all common areas, shared equipment, and high-touch surfaces as defined by OR-OSHA that are under its control and that are used by employees or the public.
- Such regular cleaning or sanitization must be implemented based on the following frequencies:
 - At least once every 24 hours if the workplace is occupied less than 12 hours a day; or
 - At least every 8 hours while in use, if the workplace is occupied more than 12 hours a day.
- Employers must provide employees with the supplies (soap and water) and the reasonable time necessary to clean or sanitize more frequently than would otherwise be required if the worker chooses to do so.
- All workers should **wash hands often**, especially before eating, smoking, or drinking, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Workers should refrain from touching their face.
 - Providing hand sanitizer is acceptable in the interim between availability of hand washing facilities.
 - The general contractor shall communicate as to what steps are being taken to provide adequate sanitary/handwashing facilities on the project.
 - Employees performing cleaning will be issued proper PPE, such as nitrile gloves and eye or face protection as needed.
 - Maintain Safety Data Sheets (SDS) of all disinfectants on site.
 - Any trash from the trailers or the job site should be changed frequently by someone wearing gloves. After changing the trash, the employee should throw the gloves away and wash their hands.

Workers Entering Occupied Buildings and Homes

Many contractors and service technicians perform construction and maintenance activities within occupied homes, office buildings, and other establishments. Although these are not large job sites, these work locations present their own unique hazards with regard to COVID-19 exposures. Plumbers, electricians, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) technicians are examples of these types of workers. All such workers should evaluate the specific hazards when determining best practices related to COVID-19.

- Require the customer to clean and sanitize the work area prior to the workers' arrival on site.
- Limit work in occupied areas of a home or other structure to only those tasks that are strictly necessary.
- Technicians should sanitize the work areas themselves upon arrival, throughout the workday, and immediately before departure.
- Require customers to keep household pets away from work area.
- Ask that occupants keep a personal distance of 10 feet at minimum.
- Do not accept payments on site (no cash or checks exchanged). Require electronic payments over the phone or online.
- Workers should wash hands immediately before starting and after completing the work. Refer to CDC guideline: [When and How to Wash Your Hands](#).