Cleaning and disinfecting campus spaces is more important than ever. The good news is that ECU’s housekeeping team already practices the same recommendations developed for health care systems when cleaning our campus environments. Housekeeping is readying campus for reopening, moving building-to-building and room-to-room each day with the goal of cleaning and disinfecting all areas across campus by August 10.

Housekeepers will be increasing the number of thorough cleanings and disinfecting of restrooms to a goal of at least twice a day. There will be a heightened concentration on disinfecting touch points throughout buildings including wipe-downs of restrooms. Neutral disinfectant cleaner will continue to be used in areas that have been shut down. A new peroxide, multi-surface disinfecting cleaner will be also be used. This new disinfectant has a much quicker contact time to kill germs and viruses. Reduction of office cleanings to once a week will allow the extra time to spend on this.

Housekeeping follows eight guidelines for thorough cleaning and disinfecting which follow this mnemonic phrase:

**Remember Cleaning Today Can Stop Transmitting Infections Fast**

- Right PPE and equipment are needed for the safety of our teams.
- Clean as if it were for a friend or family. Understand and think about the implications.
- Top to bottom cleaning/disinfecting to avoid moving dirt into clean areas.
- Clean to dirty. Save the dirtiest areas for last to avoid moving dirt into cleaner areas.
- Space to space. Clean and disinfect one space completely before moving to another.
- Taps before sink. Infection prevention guidance is to clean the sink taps first, then clean the rest of the sink with a new cloth.
- If your mop or cloth is dirty, change it. Changing mops and cloths helps avoid cross-contamination.
- Focus on critical “touch points,” as these points are important components in the transmission of infections.

To prevent infections, cleaning efforts focus on 21 critical touch points, or high-touch areas, scientifically proven to pose the highest risk for spreading infections. Not every one of the 21 critical touch points will be present in every space cleaned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audio/visual devices</th>
<th>Door handles</th>
<th>Stairway rails</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bathroom handrails</td>
<td>Elevator buttons</td>
<td>Toilet flushes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair arms</td>
<td>Hand hygiene dispensers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair seats</td>
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<td>Desks/tabletops</td>
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<td>Door frames</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Tips for Cleaning and Disinfecting Personal Spaces

Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces in your personal spaces. Cleaning refers to the removal of germs, dirt and impurities from surfaces. It does not kill germs but removes them, lowering their numbers and the risk of spreading infection. Disinfecting refers to the use of chemicals, for example, EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill germs on surfaces.

- Regularly wipe down high-touch points.
- Wipe down with a clean cloth.
- If dirty, clean before disinfecting.
- Use a disinfectant with a 99.9% kill rate that is appropriate for the surfaces you want to disinfect.
- A bleach solution can be used as an alternative.
- Follow all instructions on the label including contact time and if rinsing is required.

Cleaning efforts should be focused on these 21 critical high-touch areas:

- Audio/visual devices
- Bathroom handrails
- Chair arms
- Chair seats
- Computer keyboard/mouse
- Desks/tabletops
- Door frames
- Door handles
- Elevator buttons
- Hand hygiene dispensers
- Light switches/pulls
- Lockers
- Phones
- Sink tap/sinks
- Stairway rails
- Toilet flushes
- Toilet roll dispensers
- Toilet seats
- TV remotes
- Wall mouldings
- Windowsills

Cleaning and Disinfecting Electronics

Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products. Consider the use of wipeable covers for electronics. If no manufacturer guidance is available, consider the use of alcohol-based wipes or spray containing at least 70% isopropyl alcohol to disinfect touch screens. Dry surfaces thoroughly to avoid the pooling of liquids.
Disinfecting with a Bleach Solution

- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing 5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) bleach per gallon of room temperature water — or — 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of room temperature water.
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions for application.
- Ensure a contact time of at least one minute.
- Allow for proper ventilation during and after application.
- Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date.
- Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
- Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.

Safe Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines

- Wear skin protection and consider eye protection for potential splash hazards.
- Ensure adequate ventilation.
- Use no more than the amount recommended on the label.
- Use water at room temperature for dilution (unless stated otherwise on the label).
- Avoid mixing chemical products.
- Label all diluted cleaning solutions.
- Store and use chemicals out of the reach of children and pets.
- You should never eat, drink, breathe or inject these products into your body or apply directly to your skin as they can cause serious harm.
- Do not wipe or bathe pets with these products, or any other products, that are not approved for animal use.