

# Contamination of Germs on Construction Sites

Please be advised the following information is a compilation of industry best practices for recommended use.

## Meetings:

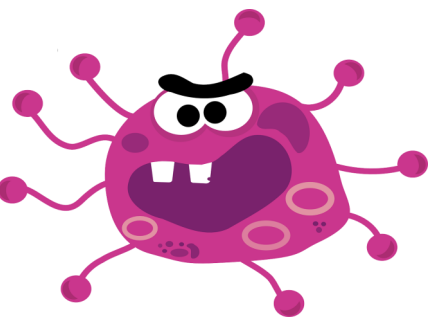
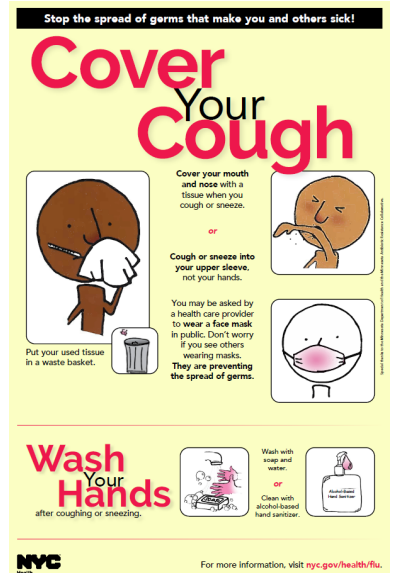
All pre-shift meetings and new hire orientations should include information on proper hygiene (including hand washing and coughing into your arm), how to keep frequently touched surfaces clean, and procedures on what a worker should do if they feel sick.

Meetings should be conducted over-the-phone or outdoors whenever possible. When conducting meetings and working on site, workers should try to limit close contact with people whenever possible.

## Hygiene and Cleaning:

The best way to prevent germs from spreading is by making sure you maintain good hygiene! This includes washing your hands with soap and water for 30 seconds after using the bathroom, before you eat, and before, during, and after preparing food; disinfecting frequently touched surfaces often; and covering your mouth and nose with your arm or a tissue when you sneeze or cough. If you use a tissue be sure to promptly discard the tissue and wash your hands.

To disinfect frequently touched surfaces, disinfecting wipes can be used. Tools and equipment should be wiped down after each use and face masks should be replaced if you sneeze or cough in it. For larger tools and equipment, wiping or spraying down the surface or tool with a 1:30 ratio of bleach to water (one part bleach for every 30 parts water) will work just fine too. Please be sure to allow the solution to sit undisturbed on the surface for 5 minutes to kill all the germs.



## Other Ways to Reduce the Spread of Germs:

- Stagger pre-shift meetings, new hire orientations, and other meetings that must be conducted in person.
- Practice social distancing by avoiding large groups and gatherings and maintaining a distance of six feet from other people whenever possible.
- Provide workers with access to soap and water so they can wash their hands frequently.
- Give your co-workers friendly reminders if you notice they forget to wash their hands, cover their mouth, or wipe down their equipment after each use.

## Monitoring Symptoms:

Germs are easiest spread through coughs and sneezes. Monitoring workers for symptoms is a great way to prevent germs from spreading.

The supervisor should monitor and watch employees to see if they are symptomatic. If the supervisor notices a worker who begins presenting symptoms they should send that employee home.

If an employee is symptomatic they should be encouraged to stay home. The supervisor should keep a record or log of all employees who are sent home or stay home.

If sites are temporarily closed for cleaning or any other reason, please notify DOB at [COVID-19@buildings.nyc.gov](mailto:COVID-19@buildings.nyc.gov).



## COVID-19 Symptoms to look for:

- **Dry cough;** you do not bring up mucus.
- **Fever;** body temperature of 100.4°F or higher.
- **Body aches;** soreness or pain of the body.
- **Shortness of breath;** the inability to breath or having difficulty breathing.