CTAA Best Practices:
Properly Cleaning a Vehicle and Other Transit Facilities

CTAA members across the country are adapting to increased and more vigorous cleaning schedules and routines. Below are CTAA’s recommendations on best practices for cleaning and disinfecting vehicles and other community facilities, provided with information directly from the CDC.

How Should I Properly Clean and Disinfect?

1. If surfaces are visibly dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
2. For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. Diluted household bleach solutions can be used if appropriate for the surface. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
3. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date.
4. Follow manufacturer’s instructions for application and proper ventilation.

How Often Should I Clean High Touch Surfaces?

High touch surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected frequently. High touch surfaces include: kiosks, turnstiles, benches, railings, handrails, garbage cans, door handles, restroom surfaces (faucets, toilets, counters), poles, handrails, seats, benches, grab bars and exit buttons.

How Should I Clean Electronics?

For electronics, such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards:
1. Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics.
2. Follow manufacturer’s instruction for cleaning and disinfecting.
3. If no guidance, use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol. Dry surface thoroughly.

How Should I Clean Carpeted Areas?

For surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, seats, and drapes, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.

What Products Should I Use?

Products registered with EPA for use against novel coronavirus are expected to be effective against COVID-19. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.). Click here for a list of products registered with EPA for use against novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

How Can My Staff Be Protected While Cleaning?

Staff should wear personal protective equipment (PPE), in accordance with the disinfectant manufacturer’s instructions. After removing PPE, staff should wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

What If We Can’t Find Our Usual Cleaning/Disinfecting Products or PPE?

For cleaning purposes, one option is to make a simple all-purpose cleaner. Mix one teaspoon of fragrance-free dish soap in a spray bottle filled with water. Spray on the surface and scrub with paper towels or a microfiber cloth. Rinse and wipe dry to remove any residue.

For disinfecting purposes, prepare a bleach solution by mixing: 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water.

CDC is not currently recommending masks for healthy people who are not front-line healthcare professionals. To learn more about when it is appropriate to wear a mask, visit WHO’s information page. As for finding other forms of personal protection, consider contacting other local organizations for possible donations.

CTAA has developed a dedicated webpage to COVID-19 resources: https://ctaa.org/covid-19-resources/