Protecting Yourself When Cleaning

- Close off the suspected area and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
- Wear disposable gloves for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash. Gloves should be compatible with the disinfectant products being used.
- Additional protective equipment might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used.
- Always follow manufacturer’s instructions for all disinfectants used.
- Cleaning staff should immediately report breaches in PPE (e.g., tear in gloves) or any potential exposures to their supervisor.
- A surgical or medical style mask will not protect you from chemicals.
- If bleach solutions are used, make sure the bleach hasn’t passed the expiration date. Never mix bleach and ammonia.

Cleaning after COVID-19

Cleaning and Disinfection are different.

- Cleaning removes of germs, dirt, and impurities.
- Cleaning does not kill germs but lowers the risk of spreading infection.
- Dirty surfaces should be first cleaned using a detergent or soap and water.
- Disinfecting uses chemicals to kill germs on surfaces.
- When disinfecting, only use approved disinfectants or bleach solution.
- Disinfectants work better on clean surfaces.

Coronavirus and COVID-19

- Coronavirus are a large group of viruses that can infect both humans and animals.
- SARS-CoV-2 is the actual name of the specific strain of the coronavirus in the news now.
- Primarily spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- Person-to-Person Contact is the Primary mode of transmission. (less than 6 feet from infected individuals)
- It also may be possible to get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it.
- The virus may remain active on smooth surfaces for hours to up to 3 days.
- People are most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest).
- Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW!

Your employer must inform you of the health effects and hazards of toxic substances at your worksite.

Learn all you can about chemicals. For more information: cseany.org/coronavirus-information