

# Montgomery County Recreation Cleaning and Disinfecting Community Facilities

## How to clean and disinfect

### Clean

- **Wear disposable gloves** to clean and disinfect.
- **Clean surfaces using soap and water, then use disinfectant.**
- Cleaning with soap and water **reduces number of germs, dirt and impurities** on the surface. **Disinfecting kills germs** on surfaces.
- **Practice routine cleaning** of frequently touched surfaces.
- More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use.
- Surfaces and objects in public places, such as shopping carts and point of sale keypads should be cleaned and disinfected before each use.
- **High touch surfaces include:**
- Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.

### Disinfect

- **Recommend use of [EPA-registered household disinfectant](#)****external**  
**Follow the instructions on the label** to ensure safe and effective use of the product.  
Many products recommend:
  - Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label).
  - Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.
  - **Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used** if appropriate for the surface.
  - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection, and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening may not be suitable for disinfection.
  - Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.  
**Follow manufacturer's instructions** for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.  
**Leave solution** on the surface for **at least 1 minute.**
- **To make a bleach solution**, mix: 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water OR 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
- Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
- **Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.**

### Soft surfaces

- For soft surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes
- **Clean the surface using soap and water** or with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.
- **Launder items** (if possible) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.
- OR
- **Disinfect with an EPA-registered household disinfectant.** [These disinfectants](#)**external icon** meet EPA's criteria for use against COVID-19.

### Electronics

- For electronics, such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines
- Consider putting a **wipeable cover** on electronics.
- **Follow manufacturer's instruction** for cleaning and disinfecting.
- If no guidance, **use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol.** Dry surface thoroughly.

### **Cleaning and disinfecting outdoor areas**

- Outdoor areas, like **playgrounds in schools and parks** generally require **normal routine cleaning**, but **do not require disinfection**.
- Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playgrounds- it is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.
- High touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings should be cleaned routinely.
- Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) is not recommended.
- **Sidewalks and roads should not be disinfected**. The spread of COVID-19 from these surfaces is very low and disinfection is not effective.

### **Citation**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>