



COVID-19 tips and resources from the MWEA Health & Safety Committee

The MWEA Health & Safety Committee is hosting a weekly conference call to discuss COVID-19. The call was a combination of brainstorming and information sharing. The next meeting will be scheduled for Monday, March 23rd at 1:00pm. If you are interested in joining the call, please contact MWEA or the committee chair, Jim Pawlowski at: jpawlowski@operationservices.com

Helpful links:

- Approved Disinfectants for use against COVID-19: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>
- Coronavirus information from EPA relating to water and wastewater utilities: <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>
- MWEA Coronavirus Updates and Resources: www.mi-wea.org/covid

TIPS shared by committee members:

- Quarantine all mail and supplies entering the facility for 72 hours to minimize cross contamination.
- Everybody should maintain a minimum social distance of 6 feet. If possible have employees work by themselves in different areas of the facility to minimize contact.
- Limit staff contact by altering breaks and lunch times. Limit or eliminate non-essential meetings, distribute information electronically and follow up electronically.
- Discuss possibilities of different shift schedules with HR to minimize on site staff. Prepare a plan to run with minimum staff.
- Question recent travel of employees to evaluate the possibility of exposure. This includes domestic and even local travel.
- Only critical staff/people need to be on site. Limit access to visitors.
- Reduce or eliminate visits and entries to residential homes and businesses.
- If you have septage haulers or contact with people dropping off samples, develop a way to receive samples without person to person contact.
- Use disinfectants often to clean surfaces and touched items such as door handles, keyboards and controls. This also includes vehicle doors and steering wheels.
- 1/3 cup of household bleach per gallon of water can be used as a disinfectant.
- Wear gloves and eye protection to prevent contact with the virus. Eye protection can prevent small water droplets from a sneeze entering the eye.

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- With the shortage of toilet paper there may be a significant amount of baby wipes or rags being flushed. Collection systems and lift stations may be negatively impacted.
- Public should be made aware the only thing you can flush is Pee, Poop, Paper and Puke (The 4 Ps). Baby wipes and other material is problematic for the system.
- Contact critical suppliers and discuss contingency plans should their production be interrupted by the virus.
- In the event of a quarantine, develop a plan to have healthy individual(s) staff the plant 24 hours a day for an extended period (up to 15 days). Consider hygiene, clothing, bedding, food, communications, entertainment, etc.

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