

3.3 GENERAL CLEANING & DISINFECTING GUIDELINES

If the trail operator decides to continue public access to trail amenities and infrastructure, the following cleaning and disinfecting guidelines should be applied.

3.3.1 Create a Cleaning & Disinfecting Procedure

- Trail operators should review and update, or develop, protocols and procedures for how they will manage the cleaning and disinfecting of trail amenities and infrastructure. The procedure should identify:
 - » The amenities and infrastructure that will remain open with enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures,
 - » The amenities and infrastructure that will remain open without active cleaning and disinfecting but will instead rely on warning signage or posters,
 - » The amenities and infrastructure that will be closed to public use and signed as such,
 - » How and how often amenities and infrastructure will be cleaned and disinfected,
 - » Cleaning and disinfecting products that are to be used,
 - » Required Personal Protective Equipment,
 - » Proper disposal of cleaning supplies and materials, and
 - » How cleaning and disinfecting is to be documented (e.g. cleaning log).



Cleaning

removes dirt, dust and oils that can protect germs but doesn't always kill germs.



Disinfecting

is undertaken after cleaning to kill germs.

3.3.2 General Cleaning & Disinfecting Procedures

- Coronaviruses are one of the easiest viruses to kill with appropriate disinfectant when used according to label directions. When cleaning trail amenities, choose products that clean and disinfect all at once (e.g. premixed store-bought disinfectant cleaning solutions).
- Use only approved hard-surface disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN). A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms the disinfectant product is approved and safe for use in Canada^{viii}.
- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions for safe use of cleaning and disinfection products (e.g. wear gloves, use in well-ventilated area, allow enough contact time for disinfectant to kill germs based on the product being used).
- Clean and disinfect high-touch amenities and infrastructure in high-traffic areas as frequently as possible.
- Use damp cleaning methods such as damp clean cloths, and/or a wet mop. Do not dust or sweep, which can distribute virus droplets into the air.
- Contaminated disposable cleaning items (e.g. mopheads, cloths) should be placed in a lined garbage bin before disposing of them with regular waste. Reusable cleaning items can be washed using regular laundry soap and hot water (60-90°C).
 - Wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer after removing gloves after cleaning.

Cleaning & Disinfecting Frequency

Protocols for cleaning and disinfecting public spaces and high-touch surfaces are relatively consistent across the country. However, there is variability in the frequency in which high-touch surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected. Recognizing the staffing and volunteer constraints that trail operators face, trail operators should disinfect high-touch amenities as frequently as possible.

- Rando Quebec recommends cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces every 30 minutes – 2 hours depending on usage,
- Government of Newfoundland recommends cleaning and disinfecting twice per day,
- Other government agencies recommend cleaning and disinfecting "regularly"