

3.4 HIGH-TOUCH AMENITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE THAT CANNOT BE CLEANED & DISINFECTED FREQUENTLY

It is likely that some high-touch amenities and infrastructure on certain trails will be impossible or impractical to close or clean and disinfect on a regular basis (bridge handrails, safety barriers etc.). For these amenities and infrastructure, trail operators should:

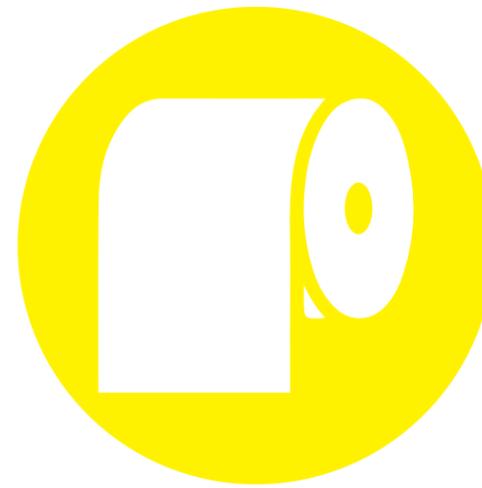
- Install signs or posters advising visitors:
 - » of the high-touch surface,
 - » to manage their own risk,
 - » that the amenity / infrastructure is not regularly cleaned and disinfected,
 - » that COVID-19 could be present, and
 - » to disinfect their hands after contact.

3.5 CLEANING & DISINFECTING CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIFIC AMENITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

The general cleaning and disinfecting guidelines outlined above should be applied to all trail amenities and infrastructure. The following are additional guidelines specific to certain amenities.

For further information on cleaning and disinfecting practices see:

- [Cleaning & Disinfecting Public Spaces during COVID-19](#)
- [Cleaning & Disinfection for Public Settings](#)
- [COVID-19 Cleaning & Disinfection for Public Facilities](#)
- [Hard Surface Disinfectant & Hand Sanitizers \(COVID-19\)](#)



3.5.1 Washrooms & Outhouses

Frontcountry and backcountry washrooms and toilets are important amenities to most visitors. They provide comfort and convenience while managing ecological and social impacts from human waste. However, they are also a higher risk for COVID-19 transmission as they are shared high-touch amenities.

Frontcountry Washrooms & Toilets

Frontcountry washrooms tend to serve greater numbers of visitors and are typically easier to access for cleaning and disinfecting. In general, trail operators should:

- Clean and disinfect busier washrooms and toilets more often than less busy washrooms / toilets.
- Provide handwashing / sanitizing stations (alcohol-based rub) if toilets and washrooms remain open.
- Install signage promoting sanitizing of hands before and after using the toilet.
- Ensure visitors can remain physically distanced while in the washroom / toilet and in queue for it. Distancing can be facilitated using partitioned stalls, blocking access to every second toilet / sink that are less than 2 m apart or staggering entry into washrooms / toilets so that fewer users are present at a time^{ix}.

Backcountry Outhouses, Garden Thrones, Composting Toilets

For many trail operators, maintaining the same level of cleaning and disinfection in backcountry toilets is unlikely. At the same time, these amenities are essential to avoiding improper human waste disposal that can contaminate water sources, attract wildlife, and impact the visitor experience. Recognizing the importance of backcountry toilets, trail operators should:

- Keep backcountry toilets open for visitor use.
- Provide and maintain a sufficient supply of hand sanitizer.
- Install posters or signs warning visitors that the amenity is not disinfected regularly, to manage their own risks of using the toilet, and disinfect their hands before and after using the toilet and before touching their face.

If trail operators decide to close backcountry toilets, they should:

- Install a sign or poster instructing visitors about how they can dispose of their human waste in accordance with the Leave No Trace practices (www.leaveonotrace.ca).

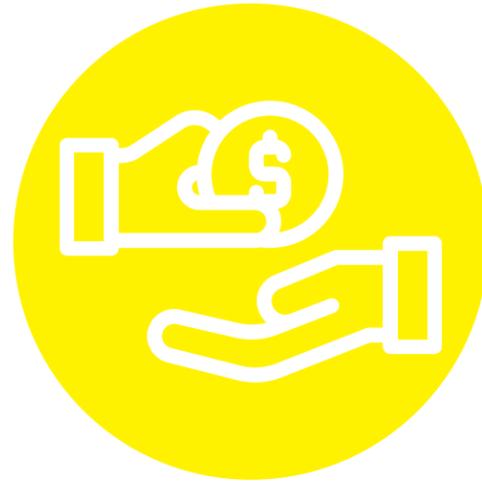
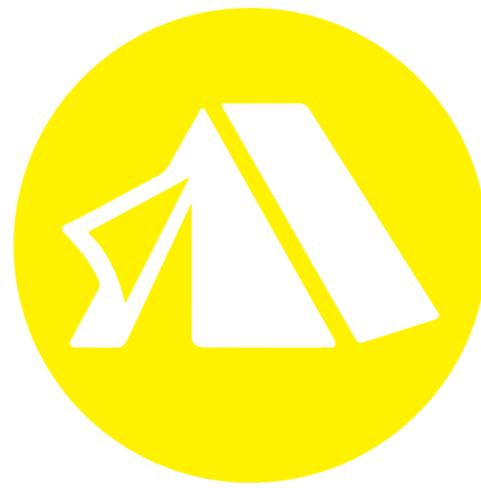
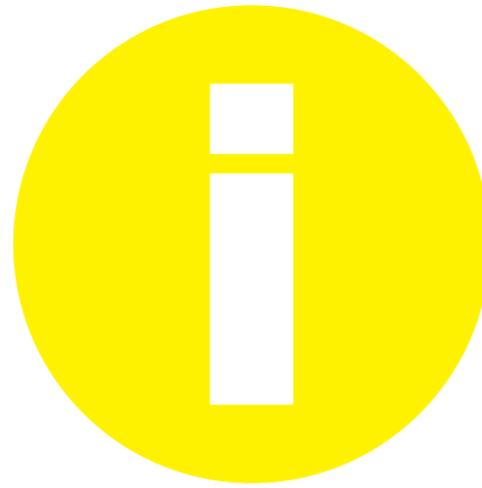
3.5.2 Visitor Service Buildings – Visitor and Information Centres / Gatehouses / Entry Booths

- Trail operators who maintain visitor service buildings (e.g. visitor centres, gate houses, entry booths) and office spaces should refer to and follow the respective provincial or territorial guidelines for work places and retail businesses.

3.5.3 Donation / Permit Fee Boxes

Donation / Permit Fee boxes can become a high-touch surface while the use of cash can increase the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Trail operators should:

- Utilize an online payment / donation system rather than a physical trailhead-based donation / permit payment system.
- Post a sign or poster at the box encouraging visitors to utilize the trail operator's online donation / pay system or providing other alternatives to remit payment to the trail operator.
- Ensure regular cleaning and disinfection of the donation / permit fee boxes if they are to remain open.



3.5.4 Campsites

Trail operators who manage campsites along their trails must review and comply with provincial or territorial public health direction on public /private campground operations. General practices include:

- Clean and disinfect campsite amenities (e.g. picnic table) after the party checks out / departs.
- Campsite reservations should be made online or via phone rather than in person.
- Maintain the names and contact information of campsite permit holders and all people staying at the site for contact tracing.
- Limit the number of campsites to 50% of the normal number of campsites where sites are located 10 m or less from each other.
- Where campsites are located more than 10m apart, limiting occupancy is not as required.

