

CPWR Guidance on COVID-19  
19 March 2020

Check back here often for updates to this information:  
<https://www.cpwr.com/covid-19>

In response to the construction industry's questions regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following are **steps everyone should be taking now**:

- Don't go to work if you are feeling sick.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Avoid large gatherings or meetings.
- Try to stay six feet away from others on job sites and in gatherings, meetings, and training sessions.
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissues if you cough or sneeze or do so into your elbow.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.
- It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.

Construction industry **employers** should also:

- Create at least 6 feet of space between workers by staging/staggering crews to prevent droplet spread.
- Plan for office staff to have the ability to work from home.
- Provide soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing. If that is impossible, provide hand sanitizer.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on job sites and in offices—such as hand rails, door knobs, and portable toilets—frequently, per CDC guidelines:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- If you work in healthcare facilities, train your workers in Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA). For information on CPWR's ICRA training program, visit:
  - <https://www.cpwr.com/training/infection-control-risk-assessment-icra>

Special guidance for **older Americans and people with underlying health conditions**:

- Older adults and those with underlying health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease are more at risk of becoming very sick from COVID-19. CDC has additional recommendations for these individuals here:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>.

Additional links from our federal government partners:

From OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>

From NIOSH: [https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/emres/2019\\_ncov.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/emres/2019_ncov.html)

From CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

From CDC for Employers about getting their businesses ready:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html>