

# COVID-19:



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR Healthcare Facilities, Schools, & Retail Stores

*The increased news coverage on the seriousness of Coronavirus and the resulting global pandemic has created a state of heightened awareness surrounding the respiratory illness COVID-19. The WHO has encouraged countries to take urgent action to help slow the spread of the disease.<sup>1</sup>*

### What are coronaviruses?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals. They rarely infect or spread between people, however this strain of the virus may be spreading at a much steadier rate, similar to the way the flu spreads.

### How are coronaviruses spread?

COVID-19 can be spread through the air, close personal contact, or by touching surfaces that carry the virus.<sup>2</sup> Symptoms of COVID-19 can appear up to 14 days after exposure and can include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing.

Reported cases of COVID-19 range from mild to severe. Most deaths related to the virus have been linked to older adults with existing health conditions.



### Important Points

*Though the death total for the flu is much higher than COVID-19, major concern for the spread of coronavirus arises from the death rate of the virus, which is significantly greater than the flu.*

**No products on the market have specific kill claims against SARS-CoV-2.**

### Other Coronaviruses

A recent study has shown that SARS-CoV-2 can live up to four hours on copper, 24 hours on cardboard, and up to three days on plastic and stainless steel.<sup>3</sup> Studies are ongoing and some research suggests SARS-CoV-2 can live on surfaces for up to 17 days.<sup>4</sup> Currently, there are no vaccines to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid exposure.

### Social Distancing

Health experts across the world are recommending social distancing to slow the spread of the virus. Social distancing involves intentionally increasing the physical space between people to decrease a person's chances of spreading illness. Experts recommend staying at least six feet away from others to help lessen your chances of catching COVID-19.<sup>5</sup>

## CDC recommendations for helping to reduce the spread of germs:



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the restroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.



If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.



Stay home when you are sick.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.<sup>6</sup>

## EPA Pre-Approved Products

The American Chemistry Council has compiled a list of products that have been pre-approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use against emerging enveloped viral pathogens and can be used during the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak. View the comprehensive list that includes multiple Buckeye products.<sup>7</sup>

Every effort is being made to meet the increased demand for disinfectants and hand hygiene related products. Buckeye offers Symmetry<sup>®</sup> hand hygiene products, Buckeye disinfectants, and Clarion 25<sup>®</sup> Microban Antimicrobial Floor Finish to help fight the spread of germs and bacteria.

*Buckeye takes SARS-CoV-2 and resulting COVID-19 seriously and continues to take a proactive approach in our effort to prevent illness. Buckeye programs strive to educate the public on the importance of best cleaning, disinfecting, and hand hygiene practices.*

We will continue to support our partners and customers, to the best of our ability, as the situation develops. Find the latest news about COVID-19 at:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/transmission.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200320192755.htm>

<sup>4</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/diamond-princess-traces-coronavirus-17-days-ship-emptied/story?id=69755804>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/coronavirus-social-distancing-and-self-quarantine>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>

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