Guidance for Classroom Cleaning and Disinfection to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Last updated: July 21, 2020

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises enhanced cleaning and disinfection of workplaces to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Campus custodians will be cleaning classrooms nightly and disinfecting high-touch surfaces in them and other public areas. These include but are not limited to public restrooms, elevator buttons, and door handles.

Cleaning and disinfection is a shared responsibility among everyone on campus; maintaining a healthy environment requires frequent and ongoing effort throughout the workday. In order to protect our campus employees, students, and visitors, work units should develop a cleaning and disinfection plan to protect the persons in their area.

In order to protect our students, faculty and staff, the University is providing classroom cleaning supplies to be used by occupants during the day (e.g., between classes). This will include spray bottles of the disinfectant Oxivir Tb and paper towels (or disinfectant wipes, if available in sufficient quantities).

If you have questions regarding this guidance, please address them to occmed@uhs.wisc.edu.

Classroom Cleaning Guidance

See attachment at the end of this document for simplified instructions.

Campus has selected Oxivir Tb as the disinfectant solution for occupant use in classrooms as it is listed as an EPA recommended product for its effectiveness for COVID-19 and has a short “dwell” time.

While the obvious items to disinfect in a classroom are the desks, countertops, tables and chairs, other items that may be high touch are:

- Doorknobs
- Light switches
- Railings
- Handles
- Phones
- Keyboards
- Touch screens
- Shared instrumentation

The “contact” or dwell time for inactivating the COVID-19 Virus with Oxivir Tb is one minute. The surfaces should be sprayed from 6-8 inches, and for full effectiveness the surface needs to remain wet for one minute. After a minute, the surface can be wiped dry, rinsed, or allowed to air dry. The dwell time is modified when using pre-wetted wipes; wipe the entire surface and allow it to air-dry.

Users are cautioned to read the label and use only as directed. It is intended for use on non-porous surfaces.
Proper use of the disinfectant requires any heavily soiled surfaces to be clean of foreign material before using Oxivir Tb. The surfaces could be cleaned with any normal soap solution or cleaning product. If the area is highly soiled, it should be avoided and reported to Physical Plant Customer Service for cleaning by custodians.

Gloves or other PPE are not required to use Oxivir Tb, but users should wash their hands after using the product.

Contact Information

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Resources

- FP&M Returning to Campus Safely
- UW Smart Restart
- Cleaning and Disinfecting: Plan, Prepare and Respond
- COVID-19 – Control and Prevention: Environmental Services Workers and Employers
Guidance for Occupant Classroom Cleaning & Disinfection to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

- Use an EPA approved disinfectant: Oxivir Tb is supplied.
- No gloves or PPE are required for using Oxivir Tb.
- Ensure heavily soiled surfaces are cleaned of foreign material. (Classrooms are cleaned nightly, if found dirty, avoid area and call Physical Plant Customer Service at 263-3333).
- Spray and paper towel:
  - Spray area and allow surface to remain wet for required dwell time; Oxivir Tb requires 1 minute.
  - Wipe off with paper towels after a minute.
- Pre-wetted wipe: Wipe the entire surface and allow it to air-dry.
- High-touch areas:
  - Desks
  - Countertops
  - Tables
  - Chairs
  - Lecterns
  - Podium
  - Dry erase markers
  - Doorknobs
  - Light switches
  - Handles
  - Shared instrumentation
  - Phones
  - Keyboards
  - Touch screens

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