

Guidance Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19) for Residential and Commercial Construction  
April 6, 2020

On March 24, 2020, the Director of Public Health and Human Services issued a Stay at Home Order for the City of Columbia and Boone County, Missouri. The order took effect on March 25, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. and will continue to be in effect until 8:00 a.m. on April 24, 2020 unless it is extended, rescinded, superseded or amended.

Construction is classified as an Essential Business under the Health Order.

This guidance is intended to assist all who work on, and in support of, new and existing construction projects to provide for a safe jobsite to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) among the workforce and in the community.

**For Residential and Commercial Construction:**

Employees should not report to work if they are sick.

Active site management is essential at each jobsite. Submit the name and contact information of the person who will be responsible for ensuring COVID-19 safety requirements are followed.

All subcontractors shall maintain a daily log with the names and phone numbers of all working onsite to the general contractor or commercial project manager. This will assist health officials with contact investigation should a case of Coronavirus (COVID-19) occur on the jobsite.

Portable bathrooms that contain hand sanitizer are required to be within 100 yards of the building site at all times. Portable bathrooms will be serviced at least twice weekly.

Do not use a common water cooler. Provide individual water bottles or instruct workers to bring their own.

COVID-19 Basic Infection Prevention Measures Job Safety poster will be posted onsite at all times. <https://www.nahb.org/-/media/NAHB/advocacy/docs/industry-issues/disaster-response/coronavirus-jobsite-infection-prevention-measures.pdf>

**For Residential Construction:**

Construction should be staged to limit no more than one trade onsite at a time.

Limit the number of people onsite to 10.

Keep workers 6 feet apart as much as possible.

Do not share tools or equipment. If tools and equipment must be shared, each tool “grab or hand” area should be disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant between each use and at the end of the day. <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

Perform routine cleaning of all frequently touched surfaces on the jobsite.

All jobsite employees must clean their hands often with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. If water is available on the jobsite, soap and water is the best way to clean hands.

For Home Repairers:

Prior to entering a home with a current resident, ask the following:

Is anyone in the household currently sick? If so, do not enter the household. Wait to enter the household until everyone is well and the home has been disinfected.

Is anyone in the household currently in quarantine (meaning they were told by the health department to stay home because they were a close contact to someone who has the virus, they recently returned from somewhere with community transmission, or they have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting their results)? If yes, do not enter the household. Wait to enter the household until the quarantine has been lifted and the home has been disinfected (generally 14 days).

Is anyone in the household in self-isolation (meaning that they have active COVID-19)? If yes, do not enter the household. Wait until self-isolation has been lifted, the household member has been told by the health department that they are no longer contagious and the house has been disinfected (time varies, but a minimum of 7 days).

### **For Commercial Construction:**

With the recognition that commercial construction projects vary in scope, applicants for new commercial construction shall submit a COVID-19 safety plan when the permit application is made. Public Health & Human Services will coordinate with the City of Columbia Building and Site Development and Boone County Resource Management to review your COVID-19 safety plan to assure a safe worksite.

The COVID-19 Safety Plan should describe:

How construction will be staged to limit the number of trades and workers onsite.

Plans for social distancing (keeping workers apart, limiting numbers, etc).

Plans and processes for routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and limiting the sharing of tools and equipment and disinfection procedures if they must be shared. EPA guidance for approved disinfectants can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

Processes for handwashing or hand sanitizing.