

COVID-19: GUIDANCE FOR PUBLIC WASHROOMS

Public washrooms are important facilities in our communities and as more public spaces are permitted for use by the general public, these facilities can be busy. COVID-19 transmission can occur through the spread of droplets when people are within close proximity or through touching contaminated surfaces. Handwashing remains one of the most important actions to reduce the spread.

Therefore, please consider the following to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in public washrooms:

SUPPORT PROPER HAND HYGIENE

- Post [handwashing](#) and [hand sanitizing](#) signs at sinks
- Ensure liquid soap and paper towels are available
- Clean and disinfect empty soap dispensers before refilling them; do not top up half-empty soap dispensers
- If hands-free sinks and dispensers are not available, increase frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces
- Provide hand sanitizer, if possible, at the entrance and exit of the washroom

SUPPORT PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Post [physical distancing signs](#) inside and outside of the washroom
 - See / download the [Golden Rules poster](#)
- Use floor markers 2-metres apart to encourage physical distancing
- Post [maximum capacity signs](#)
- Tape off sinks and urinals that are not 2-metres or more apart

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

- Post signs in each stall reminding users to wash their hands and maintain physical distance
- Maximize ventilation in the restroom
- Masks should be worn in indoor public washrooms as per the [mandatory mask policy](#) in York Region (except for those [exempt](#))

CLEAN AND DISINFECT

- Develop a cleaning schedule to ensure washrooms are cleaned and disinfected at a minimum of twice daily or when surfaces are soiled
- All washroom surfaces should be cleaned using detergent and water and disinfected using an [approved disinfectant](#)
- Clean frequently touched surfaces often at a minimum of twice daily or when soiled; the frequency is dependent on the use of the facility
- Clean and disinfect baby change tables frequently:



- Place signage near baby change tables encouraging parents/caregivers to clean and disinfect baby change table before and after use
- Ensure cleaning and disinfecting supplies are readily available for parents/caregiver use
- Employees that clean and disinfect should wear personal protective equipment (PPE)

PORTABLE WASHROOMS

- Post [handwashing](#), [hand sanitizing](#) and [physical distancing](#) signs
- Ensure hand sanitizer is available and replenished often
- Increase cleaning, disinfecting and service intervals minimum twice daily
- Increase number of portable toilets if needed

More information about COVID-19 can be found at york.ca/covid19.