

COVID-19:



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR Healthcare Facilities, Schools, & Retail Stores

As COVID-19 continues to spread, it's important to stay informed about the latest preventative measures, community guidelines, and safety recommendations.

Cleaning Your Facility During COVID-19

Buckeye provides the products and programs you need in place for overall well-being and safety. From hand hygiene programs, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting programs, and antimicrobial product floor protection to training and support materials, we are committed to helping you meet the highest cleanliness and preparedness standards.

Keeping schools clean during the COVID-19 pandemic remains a top priority in 2022. The CDC has released [guidance](#) for phased prevention in K-12 schools. This guidance outlines mitigation and community monitoring strategies.

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.

New Variants

Viruses are constantly mutating, creating new variants over time. New variants of the virus that cause COVID-19 have been documented in the United States and across the world. In some cases, variants can spread quickly, leading to more cases of COVID-19. However, current studies suggest authorized vaccines are able to generate antibodies that recognize these variants.

As of November 26, 2021, Omicron has been designated a variant of concern. Although data suggests that Omicron is less severe, it spreads more easily than other variants. The latest Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 variants are causing more than 50% of cases in the United States. The CDC recommends getting fully vaccinated and following other recommended prevention strategies for COVID-19.

How are coronaviruses spread?

COVID-19 can be spread through the air, close personal contact, or by touching surfaces that carry the virus.² 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.

EPA Approved Products

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved several Buckeye products for use against SARS-Related Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) [cause of COVID-19].

[Buckeye Terminator](#) and [Buckeye Eco One-Step Disinfectant-Deodorizer-Cleaner E22](#) have been approved with a three-minute contact time. Terminator requires a 2 oz./gal. dilution rate. Eco One-Step Disinfectant-Deodorizer-Cleaner E22 requires a ½ oz./gal. dilution rate.

[Buckeye Sanicare Disinfecting Wipes](#) have been approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 with a four-minute contact time.

[Buckeye Sanicare TBX](#) has been approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 with a one-minute contact time.

[Buckeye Eco Neutral Disinfectant E23/S23](#) and [Buckeye Sanicare Quat-256](#) have been approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 with a one-minute contact time. These products require a ½ oz./gal. dilution rate.

[Buckeye Sanicare Quat-128](#) has been approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 with a one-minute contact time. This claim requires a 1 oz./gal. dilution rate.

[Buckeye Sanicare Lemon, Mint,](#) and [Pine Quat](#) has been approved for use against SARS-CoV-2 with a one-minute contact time. This claim requires a 2 oz./gal. dilution rate.



EPA Pre-Approved Products

Several other Buckeye products have also been pre-approved for use against emerging enveloped viral pathogens and can be used during the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak. View the [comprehensive list](#), compiled by the American Chemistry Council.⁷

Every effort is being made to meet the increased demand for disinfectants and hand hygiene related products. Buckeye offers [Symmetry® hand hygiene products](#), [Buckeye disinfectants](#), and [Clarion® 25 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/>

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.³ Studies are ongoing and some research suggests SARS-CoV-2 can live on surfaces for up to 3 days.⁴ The best way to prevent infection is to get vaccinated and avoid exposure.

Vaccination

There are now several vaccines that have been authorized for use against COVID-19. The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures each vaccine is as safe as possible. The CDC has developed a new tool v-safe to monitor and detect issues with COVID-19 vaccines.

Everyone 6 months and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

Everyone over the age of 18 is eligible for a booster shot. Immunocompromised children over the age of 5 are eligible for a booster shot and immunocompromised children over the age of 12 are eligible for 2 booster shots. The CDC recommends booster shots for those who received a primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series and are 65 years and older, have underlying medical conditions, or 18 years and older who live in long-term care settings. They are also recommended for those who have received the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine and are 18 years or older.

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-19.⁵

Masks are Recommended

The CDC recommends using the COVID-19 Community Level as a gauge when deciding whether or not to wear a mask. Find out more about the level of risk in your community with this helpful CDC tool: [COVID-19 by County](#). Studies show masks reduce the spray of respiratory droplets when they are worn over the nose and mouth. Masks are recommended if you are unvaccinated and unable to stay 6 feet away from others, especially if you are in an indoor setting.

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

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

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

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/science-and-research/surface-transmission.html#ref10>

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

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

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

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.



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



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



Stay home when you are sick.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



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

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