

Anne Arundel County Department of Health COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Guidance for Cleaning After Contamination

This guidance is based on current information known about the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the AACO DOH will provide updated guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available. Please continue to check the [CDC](#) and the [AACO DOH](#) websites routinely for updated guidance.

Recommendations for Cleaning After Contamination

Surfaces

- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.
 - Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. If reusable gloves are used, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other purposes.
- If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
 - Prepare a bleach solution by mixing: 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water.
- For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.
 - After cleaning: Launder items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest water setting for the items and dry items completely.

Clothing, towels, linens and other items that go in the laundry

- Do not shake dirty laundry. This will minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Wear disposable gloves when handling dirty laundry from an ill person and then discard after each use. If using reusable gloves, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other household purposes.
 - If no gloves are used when handling dirty laundry, be sure to wash hands afterwards.
- [Clean hands](#) immediately after gloves are removed.
- Launder items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. [See EPA-approved COVID-19 fighting products list](#). If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely.
- Clean and disinfect clothes hampers according to guidance above for surfaces. If possible, consider placing a bag liner that is either disposable (can be thrown away) or can be laundered.

General

- Keep hands away from eyes, nose and mouth after cleaning.
- Practice proper hand washing.

Additional Information:

CDC Resources

- [What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions and Answers](#)
- [What to do if you are sick with COVID-19](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#)
- [Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims](#)