

# LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

FOOD & LODGING | 600 East Boulevard Ave, Dept. 301 | Bismarck, ND 58505-0200 | health.nd.gov | 701-328-1291

## PROTECTING EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS FROM CORONAVIRUS

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness. Lodging establishments could serve as a source of potential community spread. This document is meant to provide recommendations on steps that can be taken to protect employees and customers.

### Encourage Employees and Customers to:

- Stay home while sick and avoid close contact with others
- Practice good personal hygiene every day
- [Wash hands](#) often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face
- Stop handshaking and use alternative methods of greeting
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with the inside of your elbow or with a tissue; then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands
- Increase ventilation when possible by opening windows
- Stagger customer flow when possible to avoid crowding
- Promote online transactions
- Cancel or postpone events that consist of 10 people or more

**If diagnosed with COVID-19, report your illness to North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) hotline at 1-866-207-2880 and do not return to work until cleared by the health department. If someone in the household has tested positive with COVID-19, keep the entire household at home.**

### Clean and Disinfect Surfaces

Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. Use disinfectants appropriate for the surface.

- Cleaning staff should use disposable gloves when cleaning high touch surfaces and ensure gloves are changed frequently, especially when changing cleaning locations to avoid additional spread of any contamination. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves and in between glove changes.

### Hard Surfaces (non-porous)

- Clean hard surfaces (desks, tables, countertops, sinks) at least daily.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (light switches, door handles, remotes, faucets, railings, and bathrooms) more frequently.
  - If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

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- For disinfection, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
- Additionally, diluted household bleach solutions can be prepared by mixing:
  - 5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) bleach per gallon of water or
  - 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water (1,000 ppm).
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date.  
**Never mix bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.**

## Soft Surfaces (porous)

- For soft 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:
  - If the items can be laundered, launder items in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and then dry items completely.
  - Otherwise, use products with the [EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims](#) that are suitable for porous surfaces.
- Do not shake dirty laundry to minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an ill person can be washed with other items.
- Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts for transporting laundry according to the guidance for hard or soft surfaces at least weekly.
- Store clean laundry/linens away from any soiled items that have not yet been laundered or cleaned.

Stay informed and updated on this rapidly changing situation using reliable information sources.

## Additional Resources

- [North Dakota Department of Health \(NDDoH\) Coronavirus](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - [CDC guidance on Workplaces, Homes, Schools and Commercial Establishments](#)
  - [CDC Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection After Persons Suspected/Confirmed to Have COVID-19 Have Been in the Facility](#)
  - [CDC Guidance Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

For questions regarding COVID-19, contact the NDDoH hotline at 1-866-207-2880 which is open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (CST).