

Guidelines for operating Public Washrooms during COVID-19

Infection prevention and control measures:

The following mitigation guidelines will help reduce the risk of respiratory infections, including COVID-19.

Guidelines: While Utilizing Public Washrooms

Reduce the risk of transmission during activities:

- Stay at home when you are ill.
 - The [screening questionnaire](#) for staff is available on the Toronto COVID-19 site under Workplaces
- If more than 1 person at a time is entering a washroom these individuals should be persons living in the same household or individuals considered to be low risk.
- Practice [physical distancing](#) and maintain a 2 metre distance from others when within the Public Washroom.
- Respect any Provincial Emergency Orders that prohibit social gatherings of a certain size, including when within or outside a Public Washroom.

Practice proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette:

- Where possible utilize electronic push buttons or sensors to open doors, turn on sinks, flush toilets.
- Upon entering a Public Washroom immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 15 seconds.
- Try to minimize contact with frequently touched hard surfaces as much as possible.
- Prior to exiting the Public Washroom please ensure that you wash your hands with soap and water for at least 15 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, bring your own alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue. Immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm.
- Avoid touching your face, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Cloth Masks & Face Coverings

It is recommended that individuals entering Public Washrooms wear cloth masks or face covers.

Ensure that people who become ill with signs and symptoms of COVID-19 while using Public Washrooms should go home to self-isolate:

- People who become ill while at Public Washroom should go home immediately, in a private vehicle if possible, and self-isolate. They should review the City of Toronto [website](#) for more information about COVID-19.
- If a participant at a Public Washroom tests positive for COVID-19, their local Public Health Unit (Toronto Public Health for Toronto residents) will follow-up with close contacts who may include other users of the same Public Washroom. Other individuals who came in close contact with the infected individual may be required to self-isolate.

Guidelines: Public Washrooms and Adjacent Amenities

Facility Information:

- Clubhouses and fieldhouses will not be open.
- Nearby facilities (i.e. community centres) may be closed due to Toronto Public Health Guidelines.
- Public Washrooms with attached drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations will be turned on. Other standalone drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations will not be turned on.
- Public Washrooms may have reduced hours of operation as determined in consultation with Toronto Public Health.
- To meet physical distancing guidelines, certain sinks and urinals (located side by side) may be closed off.

Public Washroom Information:

- Public Washrooms will receive a deep cleaning prior to opening for the season.
- Public Washrooms (including attached drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations) will be cleaned a minimum of 2 times per day with 1 deep cleaning per week.
- Areas that will not be routinely cleaned and disinfected, include but are not limited to:
 - Lighting
 - Electrical Outlets
 - Benches/Seating
 - Waste receptacles
 - Signage
 - Message Boards
 - other hard surfaces and apparatus

- Individuals using Public Washrooms are advised to practice good hand sanitization/hygiene while using any part of the Public Washroom.
- Individuals are asked not to touch other individuals.
- 2 metre physical distancing is strongly suggested.
- If possible use every other stall and sink.
- It is unknown if the virus can live on hard surfaces, therefore it is strongly suggested to minimize touching hard surfaces.
- Participants are asked to not loiter around the Public Washroom amenity to assist in physical distancing and allow others the opportunity to utilize amenity.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Requirements:

- The cleaning and disinfecting frequency of Public Washrooms has been determined through consultation with Toronto Public Health.
- Review [Public Health Ontario's Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings document](#).

Required Signage:

Post the Public Washroom Rules sign and the Standard Health Check sign, at all Public Washrooms in prominent locations.