

COVID-19 INFORMATION

DFES Facilities and Vehicle Cleaning Guidelines for COVID-19

This guidance is for general enhanced cleaning of DFES facilities and vehicles (leased and owned) during the COVID-19 period. This is an enhanced cleaning guide designed to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and is NOT for COVID-19 virus sterilisation.

If a person on a DFES facility or using a vehicle is confirmed with COVID-19 infection, the facility and/or vehicle will undertake a detailed deep disinfectant cleaning by specialist contractors.

General Cleaning and Disinfectant

Regularly cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces such as door handles, workstations, keyboards, tables and desks helps prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. For general cleaning, use a detergent solution cleaning product:

- Use a mildly alkaline all-purpose detergent for cleaning. The cleaning of surfaces can be enhanced by using a disinfectant.
- Detergent-impregnated and 70% alcohol disinfectant wipes may also be used to complement enhanced cleaning but should not be used as a replacement to the detergent solution cleaning process.
- Wear gloves to protect the hands when cleaning surfaces. After cleaning, the gloves must be carefully washed and dried or replaced with a new pair.

Process of disinfection to help prevent the spread of Coronaviruses

Coronaviruses are surrounded by a protective envelope that helps them to infect other cells and destroying that envelope can effectively disarm them. Friction from detergent/soap solution cleaning also participates in the destruction.

Vehicles

- Use selected cleaning product and follow manufacturer's instructions for appropriate dilution and use.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces, including;
 - the steering wheel,
 - doorhandles,
 - gear lever,
 - any buttons or touch screens,
 - wiper and turn signals stalks,
 - passenger and driver arm rests,
 - locker handles
 - grab handles and seat adjusters.
- Wipe the area with selected cleaning product using disposable paper towels or a disposable cloth.

- Wear and dispose of gloves as per general cleaning process.
- Wash hands well using soap and water and dry with disposable paper or single-use cloth towel. If water is unavailable, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub.

Health and Safety Precautions:

- Undertake a pre-task risk assessment, considering all ergonomic and manual task risks and consult with your immediate work crew and Manager/Supervisor.
- Use appropriate PPE/PPC (safety glasses / goggles, nitrile gloves).
- Follow all manufacturers instruction when using detergents and disinfectant solutions.

Notes:

- vigorous washing with soap and water can also help prevent the spread and destroy a coronavirus.
- do not use ammonia-based cleaners on car touch screens, as they can damage their anti-glare and anti-fingerprint coatings.
- alcohol solutions that contain at least 70 percent alcohol are effective against helping to prevent the spread of coronavirus.
- for the most part, nearly every interior surface of a vehicle can be cleaned with isopropyl alcohol.

Where can I get further information?

For further information contact COVID19@dfes.wa.gov.au or visit:

<https://intranet.dfes.wa.gov.au/Pages/Novel-Coronavirus.aspx>

<https://volunteerhub.dfes.wa.gov.au/home/support/health-and-safety/novel-coronavirus>

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/sitecore/content/Healthy-WA/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

[WA Department of Health COVID-19 Environmental Cleaning for Workplaces \(Non-Healthcare Settings\)](#)

[Australian Government Department of Health Environmental cleaning and disinfection principles for COVID-19 \(Routine environmental cleaning & non-patient areas\)](#)



INTERIM OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 02

Date: March 2020

Subject: Operational Response Precautions

Objective

To provide additional protective measures at incidents where a person is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. Types of Incidents maybe inclusive but limited to: Structure Fires, Bush Fires, Hazmat, Road Crash Rescue (RCR), Marine Rescue, Severe weather event

Applicable To;

CFRS, VFRS, VFES, BFB, SES, MRWA

What COMCEN will do.

Communications System Officers (CSOs) will include an additional question when interrogating 000 calls where there is possible life involvement / community exposure.

CSOs will ask: “...is any person at the attendance location affected by COVID-19?”

If the answer is yes, a text message will be sent via RapidAlert to crews with this advice.

132 500 SES calls will be interrogated in the same way. If the answer is yes, a comment will be added to the Request for Assistance (RFA) in WebEOC and crews will be notified.

Responding crew actions at all incidents

As far as reasonably practicable crews are to wash hands for at least 20 seconds, using soap and water or alcohol-based gel before entering any premises.

Responding crew actions when in contact with someone who is in self isolation

If you have contact with someone who is in self-isolation:

- Maintain a distance of at least 1.5 metres between yourself and the person in self-isolation.
- Avoid making unnecessary contact with surfaces and items.
- A P2/N95 mask should be given to the person in self-isolation to wear while interacting with you;
- Responders should also wear a P2/N95 mask if required to interact with people in self-isolation;
- Contact with persons self-isolating should be avoided and nitrile gloves should be worn when handling and receiving items.
- Crews are to wash hands for at least 20 seconds, using soap and water or alcohol-based gel at the conclusion of the incident and prior to entering appliances.

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Responding crew actions when required to assist a person with suspected of confirmed COVID-19

For persons who are suspected or confirmed with COVID-19, responders should use personal protective equipment (PPE) and implemented preventative infection control measures including:

- Where possible, maintain a distance of at least 1.5 metres between yourself and the person.
- Avoid making unnecessary contact with surfaces and items.
- wearing a P2/N95 mask and eye protection;
- wearing nitrile gloves;
- using a CPR mask or oxy-viva if administering CPR;
- treating body fluids as potentially infectious; and
- decontaminating PPE as per standard procedures. Refer to [SOP 3.3.5 – Exposure to Biological Hazards](#).
- Crews are to wash hands for at least 20 seconds, using soap and water or alcohol-based gel at the conclusion of the incident and prior to entering appliances.

Post Incident actions at all incidents

Crews are to wash hands for at least 20 seconds, using soap and water or alcohol-based gel before entering the appliances.

Reporting Requirements

Any exposure or potential exposure should be reported in the Incident Reporting System (IRS) using the new COVID-19 field.

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INTERIM OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 03

Date: March 2020

Subject: Enhanced Station, Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning and Disinfection Plan

Objective

To limit the potential spread of COVID-19 at DFES facilities.

Applicable To;

CFRS, VFRS, VFES, SES, BFB, MRWA.

How to Clean a Station and Vehicle?

Procedures for cleaning stations and vehicles are detailed in the [DFES Facilities and Vehicle Cleaning Guidelines for COVID-19](#). Where that procedure specifies use of disinfectant, you are to use DFES 2. Instructions for mixing DFES 2 is outlined later in this procedure.

When should I clean and disinfect?

Cleaning and disinfection should take place at the earliest opportunity after the commencement of shift. Stations should also practice routine cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched hard surfaces and objects using a DFES 2 Disinfectant spray (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, taps, keyboards, phones). If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection

Decontaminate and Clean – Specific to Complex Structural Firefighting Radio (CSFR)

The CSFR are to be decontaminate and cleaned in the following circumstances when breathing apparatus (BA) has been used;

- a. After incidents
- b. After conducting a BA training drill

The radio is to be decontaminated and cleaned as per existing decontamination/cleaning procedures detailed in the [Complex Structural Firefighting Radio Course student resource](#), located in eAcademy.

Clean and Disinfect – All Radio Types

To clean and disinfect DFES Operational Radio Communications Devices the following procedure is to be followed:

- Radio turned OFF
- Keep battery, antenna and radio speaker microphone (RSM) connected at all times

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- Use DFES 2 disinfectant spray product;
 - Spray radio, RSM, curly cord and antenna with DFES 2
 - Pay particular attention to the front of the RSM speaker grill and RSM Push To Talk (PTT).
 - Wipe radio and accessories clean with hand towel removing dirt and excess DFES 2 product.
 - Reinstate the radio for operational use

How to make disinfection?

Disinfection is based on DFES 2. DFES 2 product labelling contains instructions for safe and effective dilution and use of the cleaning product. The ratio advised is 6ml DFES 2:1L water

Correct ratio for a 750ml Spray Bottle 4.5ml DFES 2: 750ml water

Precautions to take when using disinfecting.

- Wearing clear disposable gloves is recommended.
- Ensure you have good ventilation during use of the product.
- Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning.

Where to order products.

Product	Order Code		Order from
True Blue Atomiser Bottle Trigger 750ml	CLEA0022		COS
Tru Blue Plain Natural 750ml	CLEA0020		
Universal Vinal PF Gloves – Box 100 (clear) disposable	Small	GLOV2160	
	Medium	GLOV2162	
	Large	GLOV2164	
	X Large	GLOV2166	
DFES 2 Disinfectant	Breathing Apparatus DFES 1 & DFES 2 Order Form		

Links to COS and order forms are available from the [Operational Store – Equipment](#). Alternatively contact your District Officer or Area Officer.

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