

NELHA HYGIENE PROTOCOL FOR PUBLIC AREAS

Purpose

To take precautionary measures considering COVID-19 to support a healthy and safe environment for State employees, vendors, and the public we serve. These recommendations and practices are based on information available as of 4/16/20 and may be updated per *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers*.

Goal

Clean and disinfect “high-touch” surfaces daily in public areas of all NELHA buildings (e.g. hallways, stairwells, elevators, restrooms, etc.).

The following CDC guidelines are focused on household settings and are meant for the general public:

- **Cleaning** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- **Disinfecting** works by using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs. But by killing germs remaining on a surface *after* cleaning further reduces any risk of spreading infection.

Daily Cleaning by NELHA Operations Staff and/or Contractor

NELHA will conduct cleaning/disinfecting wipe down of “high-touch” surfaces and touch

points. Steps:

1. 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. Consult the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning and disinfection products used. Wash hands immediately after gloves are removed.
2. If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
3. For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.

Tenant office areas are the tenant’s responsibility. Tenants are encouraged to follow similar cleaning and disinfecting for high touch areas and do their best to follow CDC guidelines.

References:

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/home/cleaningdisinfection.html>