



In today's times and work environment it is a necessity to limit the possibility of spreading the COVID-19 virus. Each person on the project **MUST** be an integral part in maintaining safety for themselves as well as all others who are working as part of the crew or support to the project. Slowing or not transmitting the virus is the responsibility of each person. Following proper sanitization and cleaning procedures will help to eradicate the spread. Having a quality operations plan in place and enforcing the plan, is going to be a normal part of the workday for each person involved.

The coronavirus (COVID-19), which can remain virulent in the air and on hard surfaces, is easily transmitted. To reduce transmitting the disease, public health agencies and governments emphasize – and in many cases mandate – social distancing and discourage the congregation of groups. Individuals who must work closely to each other during physically demanding activities could be at increased risk for contracting and further spreading COVID-19. To help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, "Do the Five"...

**HANDS:** Wash them often  
**ELBOW:** Cough into it  
**FACE:** Don't touch it  
**FEET:** Stay more than 6ft apart  
**FEEL SICK?** Stay home

- **Keep hands clean and sanitized.** frequent hand washing or sanitizing with a chemical sterilant that contains at least 60% alcohol. If a sterilant is not available create a hand wash station with ample soap . Make this available to all members of the project team. Most, if not all paving projects have water available (Water trucks or tanks for filling rolling equipment) so keeping a wash station filled and available is appropriate. A hand wash station might be as simple as a container with a spout that can be turned on and off to allow for water to flow onto the hands being cleaned.
- **Bottle sprayers for sanitization:** Have bottle sprayers available with some type of cleaning solution in them. The sprayers recommended are the garden type sprayer which are charged by hand pumping or by adding compressed air and hold multiple gallons of liquid. Create a soap or chemical solution such as chlorine or bleach. This solution could be made by dropping chlorine tablet or granulated chlorine in water added to the sprayer. Make the solution strong enough to kill the virus or bacteria it encounters. The chlorine tablet or granules can be found at most locations where pool and spa chemicals are available or at on-line retailers. Equipment and tools should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized regularly at the end of shifts, including eye protection, hard hats and other head wear. The solutions (soap or chemical) can be sprayed onto the tools and equipment and left to dry or remain on for 5 to 15 minutes and then rinsed off with a strong spray of clear water.
- **Gloves are a necessity.** Each person involved on the project should be wearing hand protection. Wearing rubber or nitrile gloves in a paving situation may be an issue with causing the hands to be over heated and wet from perspiration, so having a quality pair of work gloves will help to slow the spread of the virus. When the gloves are removed, the employees should immediately wash or sanitize their hands. The gloves being used should not be transported with the employee inside of their vehicle. Instead, they can be left out overnight in the back of a truck or in the trunk of a car, away from any person in the event the virus has contacted the fabric of the gloves.

- **Clothing.** It is strongly recommended that clothing worn on site when persons are near or adjacent to others be removed prior to entering a dwelling. As quickly as possible after removing clothing the person should sanitize themselves by bathing or showering. The clothing should be washed in hot or warm water with a detergent to help eliminate the transmission of the virus to others. This becomes even more important when persons are sharing tools and equipment operations. If nose and mouth protection is being worn, those should also be washed on a daily basis to reduce the transmission of the virus from person to person.
- **Higher Temperatures and Asphalt Paving:** Some research has indicated the virus will not survive if it is exposed to a temperature of 155°F for 5 or more minutes. If this research is accurate, the virus will not live in the backs of trucks used to haul APM, in the hopper or screed area or on sample container which are used to transport the APM from projects to laboratories. Persons who are charged with the sampling and transporting of APM should still use caution and follow the proper safety and sanitization guidelines.