

Agricultural Site COVID-19 Prevention Procedures

COVID-19 Prevention Procedures While Working on an Agricultural Site

Hygiene Practices

- Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds – before you eat and at the end of the workday, during the work-shift whenever possible, and when you get home from work.
- Do not shake hands; avoid physical contact.
- Do not share food, drinks, cigarettes, personal hand tools.
- Do not touch your face, eyes, nose, mouth with unwashed hands (i.e., smoking, drinking water, eating, etc.)
- Follow good respiratory etiquette by covering your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue or the crease of your elbow when you sneeze or cough.
- Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces and tools

Orientation and Meetings

- Limit the number of persons in the orientation or meeting – a chair spacing between workers. This may require hosting the meetings more often. **Where practical, move orientation meeting outdoors and conduct a verbal meeting – reinforce physical distancing.**
- Use the Public Health Authority Health Assessment tool questions to verify that workers are not feeling sick and so they are aware of what the symptoms are so they can self-monitor. <https://bc.thrive.health/>
- Disinfect used pens, tables, chairs and table after each meeting.
- As part of the verbal orientation, discuss:
 - Physical distancing of 2 meters
 - Hygiene, and location of hand washing and hand sanitization stations.
 - What the company is doing at the site to promote a safe workplace and remind them that their health is important to us.
 - Where the Safety posters are located.
 - The importance of reporting to their supervisor if they are feeling unwell and leaving the farm.

Health Verification of Visitors Prior to Site Access

- Question all site visitors on the current status of their health – use PHA Health Assessment tool questions. Questionnaire in development.

Health Verification of Workers

- At start of shift, Supervisor to confirm the health status of all workers and notify farm manager of any issues. Document issues.
- Supervisor, each day, to ask for updates of workers that have left the site for self-isolation. Document changes.
- At end of shift, Supervisor to confirm the health status of all workers and notify farm Manager of any issues.
- Use the regional PHA Health Assessment tool. <https://bc.thrive.health/> Document Issues.

Receive and Review Contractor COVID-19 Plan (if applicable)

- How is their plan being applied to their Subcontractors?

Stairwells

- Avoid passing each other on the stairs. Wait on the landing until person has exited stairs.

When Wearing Gloves

- Do not touch your face, eyes, or mouth
- Make sure that hands are washed thoroughly or disinfected with hand sanitizer as soon as possible after gloves are removed

Meetings at Site

- Hold outside in open areas.

Offices and Common Areas

- Restrict Access. Place contact information (phone #) outside on door.
- Limit the number of workers or restrict who is permitted to enter these spaces.
- Maintain the physical distance requirements (2 metres).
- Do not touch items – “keep your hands to yourself”.
- Do not share keyboard or mouse, pens, clipboards or documents.
- Disinfect commonly touched items like door handles, chairs, tables, etc.
- Handrails leading up to offices: Do not slide your hand down them. Routinely disinfect.

Lunchroom

- Post signage to remind workers to wash or disinfect their hands before and after eating.
- Stagger coffee/lunch breaks to reduce the number of workers in the lunchroom at the same time.
- Maintain physical distancing by staggering seating arrangement, or don't eat in the lunchroom
- Remove garbage often.
- Routinely disinfect the tables and other commonly handled items.
- Ensure sufficient fresh air supply to reduce “recirculating” the air inside the lunchroom. Set-up negative air if required.
- Separate PPE and clothing that is hung up in the lunchroom to avoid touching.
- If you have to take your spare work clothing home, place it in a plastic bag and do not take it out of the plastic bag until it goes into the laundry to be washed – ideally separately.

Work Locations

- Maintain physical distancing between workers (2 metres).
- Stagger work crews to reduce the number of people on site, if possible
- Where possible, reduce the number of partner workers.
- Don't mix workers on crews.

Tools

- Avoid sharing tools or equipment.
- If you have to share equipment, clean and disinfect points of contact on the equipment. Example: on a shared tractor, wipe down steering, key, controls, seat belt and any other parts touched by hands. Disinfect it when you are done.

First Aid Treatment

- First Aid Attendants to wear N95 mask or ½ mask respirator, face shield and medical gloves when treating workers.
- If conscious and capable of answering, ask the worker the PHA Health Assessment tool questions to verify current status of their health. <https://bc.thrive.health/>