



UMD - Safeguards to reduce COVID-19 Exposure and Transmission During Essential Fieldwork

4/8/20

PLAN

- STAY AT HOME if you are sick. Even if you are just starting to feel sick-stay home.
- Any UMD workgroup that conducts fieldwork during the COVID-19 Stay at Home Order must have approval from university leadership.
- The PI and workgroup shall create a Safety Control Plan outlining specific procedures they will take to reduce the spread of COVID-19 during fieldwork. Documentation of training content and completion shall be maintained with other required safety training records.

TRAVEL

- If the vehicle has been used in the last 3 days, wipe it down with a cleaning cloth containing 70% alcohol (this will not damage the interior and is effective with COVID-19). Clean the places you come into contact with the most (door handle, key fob, steering wheel, dashboard).
- It is a good idea to keep a tube of disinfectant wipes in the vehicle as an easy and effective preventive measure.
- Make sure the vehicle's ventilation is pulling clean air from the outside and is not recirculating air. Open windows if weather permits.
- Limit the number of employees traveling together. If feasible, no more than 1-2 and sit as far away from one another as possible.
- If social distancing cannot be maintained cloth face coverings or procedural masks can be used.
- Vehicle occupants should practice good hygiene practices when en route. Use wipes or hand sanitizer and avoid touching surfaces.
- Refrain from sharing personal equipment (phones, etc.).
- Field crews should minimize outside human interactions, including at rest stops, gas stations, grocery stores, and getting take-out food. When in an area where other people are present:
 - ✓ Maintain a social distance of 6 feet
 - ✓ Wash hands and use sanitizer frequently
 - ✓ Avoid touching surfaces
 - ✓ Refrain from touching your face

Work

- Field crews should minimize outside human interactions as mentioned above.
- Maintain a 6ft distance from colleagues, whenever possible, and consider a cloth face cover when working within 6ft.
- Wear gloves when handling shared equipment (sample jars, media, etc.). Always wash hands after removing gloves.
- Routinely wash hands and wipe common surfaces often.
- If crews develop the symptoms, they should not conduct fieldwork. Please engage a health professional and follow their recommendations, alerting your supervisor as needed.
- If crews develop symptoms of COVID-19 during fieldwork, they should immediately return from the field. Please engage a health professional and follow their recommendations, alerting your supervisor as needed. Individuals working with those that develop symptoms of COVID-19 should be on the lookout for symptoms and consult health professionals as needed.