

Florida State University

Best Practices for Monkeypox virus Cleaning and Disinfecting

In order to minimize the spread of the Monkeypox or any other virus, the following best practices prevention and precautionary measures should be followed as outlined and recommended from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), and the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) guidelines and standards.

As new information becomes available, this best practice document will change to conform with the [CDC](#), [WHO](#), and the [EPA](#) recommendations.

For areas that are not contaminated with the Monkeypox virus, standard routine cleaning and disinfecting are appropriate.

Common practices to follow while in your work facility or workspace

- [Wash hands](#) frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and water throughout the day especially after touching any blister or sore, before preparing food and eating, and after using the toilet.
 - Cleaning with soap and water removes germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. It lowers the risk of spreading infection.
 - If you cannot wash hands with soap and water, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Note: The use of soap and water hand washing is preferred over alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- When using an elevator, consider using your elbow or other objects like an office key or pencil to push the elevator cab keys. When using stairwells be mindful of touching handrails, door handles and other flat surfaces. When entering or leaving your work area or facility, remember to reduce the number of door handles, light switches, handrails, and other flat and solid surfaces that you may touch. Be sure to wash hands or use ABHR.
- For frequently touched surfaces or objects such as: counters, tabletops, workstations, vehicles, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, desks, chairs, and tables or any other hard surface, the use of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) household cleaning spray or wipe can be used.
- When using cleaning sprays or disinfecting wipes, be sure to follow the precautions, application directions, and contact time according to the label instructions to ensure the safe and effective use of the product. In general, the following list of items can be used to help maintain your work area.
 - Disinfectant Wipes
 - Hand Sanitizers
 - General approved EPA disinfectant
 - Disposable Cleaning Towel

- Hand Soap
- A list of pre-approved EPA registered household cleaning sprays or disinfecting wipe products can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>.
- After cleaning and disinfection, properly dispose of any wipes or cleaning supplies and [wash hands](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- The following University contracted providers can be used to obtain cleaning and disinfecting supplies for your departments use.
 - **RGH** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/rgh>
 - **Grainger** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/Grainger>
 - **VWR** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/VWR>
 - **Ferguson** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/Ferguson>
 - **HD Supply** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/HD-Supply>
 - **Medline** <https://procurement.fsu.edu/vendors/medline>

Practices to follow while cleaning and disinfecting for Monkeypox virus

The following best practice considerations on cleaning and disinfecting settings that may be contaminated by someone that has had the Monkeypox virus.

What to wear while cleaning and disinfecting for Monkeypox virus:

- Wear at a minimum the following personal protective equipment (PPE):
 - Disposable gloves.
 - NIOSH approved respirator or well-fitting mask.
 - Eye protection.
 - Standard clothing that fully covers the skin should be worn. If available, wear disposable gowns.
- Hand hygiene should be performed using an alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) that contains at least 60% alcohol, or soap and water after cleaning.
 - [Wash hands](#) frequently for at least 20-40 seconds with soap and water especially after touching any blister or sore, before preparing food and eating, and after using the toilet.
 - Cleaning with soap and water removes germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces.
 - If you cannot wash hands with soap and water, clean your hands with an ABHR sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Note: The use of soap and water hand washing is preferred over alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
 - After cleaning and disinfection, properly dispose of any wipes or cleaning supplies and wash hands with soap and water or clean your hands with an ABHR.

What disinfectant to use

- Use an [EPA-registered](#) disinfectant for Emerging Viral Pathogens (EVPs), List Q, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- When using cleaning and disinfecting sprays and wipes, be sure to follow all manufacturer directions for use including concentration, contact time, application directions, and care and handling according to the label instructions to ensure the safe and effective use of the product.
- Do not mix cleaning and disinfectant agents or add other chemicals.
- The list for [EPA-registered](#) disinfectant for EVPs, List Q, that can be used on Monkeypox can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q>.

Focus on items to disinfect

- Wear proper PPE.
- No wait time to start cleaning and disinfecting.
- Items and surfaces that were in direct contact with the skin of the person with monkeypox.
- If unsure, disinfect.
- Do not dry dust or sweep as this may spread infectious particles.
- Wet cleaning methods are preferred such as the use disinfectant wipes, sprays, and mopping.
- For using disinfectant spray, avoid aerosolization by spraying on a paper towel and wipe the item with the paper towel.
- Vacuuming is acceptable using a vacuum with a high-efficiency air filter. If not available, ensure the person vacuuming wears a NIOSH approved respirator or well-fitting mask.
- **For hard surface cleaning and disinfectant**
 - For cleaning and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces and items using [EPA-registered](#) disinfectant for (EVPs), List Q disinfectant.
 - These includes surfaces like tabletops, countertops, door handles, bathroom fixtures, toilet flush handles, faucets, toilets, light switches, workstations, phones, keyboards, tablets, desks, chairs, and tables or any other hard surface and floors.
 - Include interior surfaces of refrigerator, freezer, other appliances, interior cabinet spaces, or drawers if they have been accessed by the person with Monkeypox.
 - Items and surfaces that have likely not been in contact with the person while sick with Monkeypox do not need to be disinfected.
 - This includes clothing and items in drawers or boxes that have not been in contact with, or in the direct presence of the person with monkeypox.
 - Wash soiled dishes and eating utensils in a dishwasher with detergent and hot water or by hand with hot water and dish soap.
- **For upholstered furniture, carpet, and soft furnishing (porous items)**

- If the person with Monkeypox had direct skin contact and/or excessive drainage of fluids from rashes onto soft furnishings, such as upholstered furniture, carpets, rugs, and mattresses, should be steam cleaned.
- If the person with Monkeypox had minimal contact with soft furnishings, disinfect the surface with a surface appropriate disinfectant.
- **For laundry**
 - Contaminated laundry should **not** be mixed with other non-contaminated laundry.
 - Wear proper PPE when handling soiled laundry.
 - Handle soiled laundry according to standard practices, avoiding contact with contaminates from the rash that may be present on the laundry.
 - Soiled laundry should never be shaken or handled in a manner that may spread infectious particles.
 - Laundry items should be in a container or bag that can be disinfected afterwards. Alternatively, a fabric bag may be used that can also be laundered along with the soiled items.
 - Wash laundry in a standard washing machine with hot water and detergent, following label instructions.
 - Laundry sanitizers may be used but are not necessary.
 - After handling soiled laundry wash hands with soap and water or clean your hands with an ABHR.
- **For waste disposal**
 - Waste from those individuals with Monkeypox should be separated
 - Note: Municipal waste management systems routinely collect and dispose of waste materials from individuals with infectious diseases and can do so safely using existing procedures.
 - The person with Monkeypox should use a dedicated, lined trash can in the room where they are isolating.
 - Any gloves, bandages, or other waste and disposable items that have been in direct contact with skin should be placed in a sealed plastic bag (i.e., Ziploc bags), then thrown away in the dedicated trash can.
 - Wear proper PPE when handling waste.
 - The person with monkeypox or other household members should use gloves when removing garbage bags and handling and disposing of trash.
 - Trash and garbage bags should be securely sealed for disposal.
 - After handling waste wash hands with soap and water or clean your hands with an ABHR.

Special requests of Building Services can be made by contacting either:

- Service Center: (850) 644-2424
- Building Services: (850) 644-4000

References:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/specific-settings/home-disinfection.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/pdf/Monkeypox-Interim-Guidance-for-Household-Disinfection-508.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>
- <https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/monkeypox/index.html>
- <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox>
- <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q>
- <https://www.epa.gov/sciencematters/monkeypox-applying-what-we-know-about-biological-agents-prepare-emerging-public>
- <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>