COVID-19 Safe Vehicle Sharing

Best Practices

Based on available information, it is estimated that COVID-19 can survive on hard surfaces from 24 hours to several days. It can be spread by touching a contaminated area, then touching the mouth, nose or eyes before washing hands. Hand washing and respiratory hygiene are important ways of interrupting this transmission.

Social distancing is the best method to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When this is not possible employers should include vehicle cabs in their Hazard Prevention Program.

Recommended ways to reduce exposure:

- Install a Plexiglas shield or similar barrier between the front and back seats
- If a barrier is not possible, PPE such as a face covering or mask should be worn
- Maintain good ventilation inside the cab. Have windows cracked open. Refrain from using the recirculate air option
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces inside and outside after each trip- See checklist below
- Have the driver open and close the doors for each passenger
- Provide seat covers that are easy to clean. Example: Cover cloth seats with a wipeable seat cover
- Avoid having more than 2 people in the front and 2 people in the back. Ideally have only the driver and only one person in the back on the passenger side
- Do not touch your face, eyes, nose or mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with the crease of your elbow or a tissue when you sneeze or cough. Do not sneeze into your hands. Dispose of tissue’s and wash or sanitize your hands as soon as possible.
- Provide hand sanitizer inside the vehicle for the occupants to use
- Do not eat or drink while transporting workers
- Minimize the number of vehicles shared by employees to limit the spread of the virus between different users of the same vehicles where possible
- Ensure that drivers have access to appropriate disinfectants, hand sanitizer, personal protective equipment such as gloves, and any other materials needed to clean high-touch surfaces in their trucks and implement recommendations.

(For routine cleaning and disinfection, and for areas potentially contaminated with COVID-19, a hard-surface disinfectant authorized by Health Canada is recommended. For a list of hard-surface disinfectants for use against coronavirus (COVID-19), please see (Health Canada’s website.)

- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the recommended dilution rates, contact times and conditions specific to the surface.
- Avoid bleach except on simple plastics.
- Don’t use solvents.
Vehicle Cleaning Checklist:
PPE: Use disposable, water-proof gloves. (Avoid contact with contaminated areas and hand contact with the face, especially the nose and eyes.)

Make sure vehicle interiors are clean and hygienic by wiping surfaces with disinfectant. The following equipment should be available for cleaning: disposable cloths, paper towels, disposable waste bags, labels and tape, EPA registered cleaning agents and disinfectants.

- Keys or FOBs
- Starter button on vehicles with FOBs
- Inside and outside door handles; Inside door grab handles, pads and armrests
- Steering wheel
- Shift lever and console
- Dashboard
- Power window and door lock switches
- Radio and climate control buttons
- Turn signal and wiper levers
- Seat adjuster, seat belt and seat belt release button
- Touch screens
- Any other parts that are commonly used and that may have been touched (Example; Glove compartment, hood, trunk, van panel door handles, pick-up tailgate handles).

Dispose of soiled cleaning clothes, disinfection cloths, disposable gloves and any other items used in the cleaning process in a disposable waste bag. Wash hands when finished using proper hand washing techniques.

**REMINDER**- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet’s (SDS) for more information on the safe use, care and handling of chemicals used in the cleaning process. (Example; Disinfection agents may cause airway and dermal irritations. Have strong odors and present inhalation hazards while being sprayed.)