

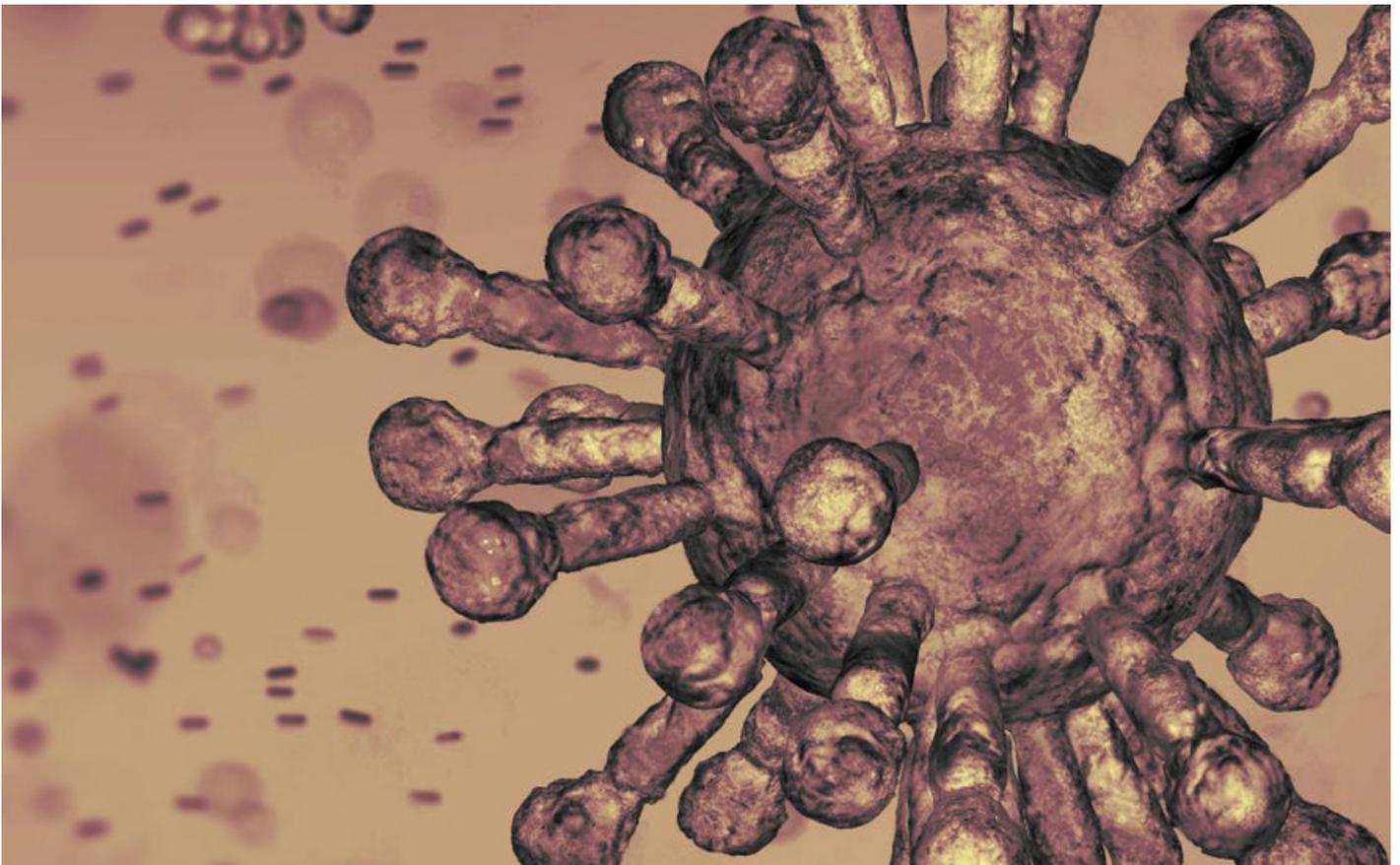


**Peniel Environmental**

National Hotline: 855-712-8434



# COVID-19 Coronavirus Cleaning and Disinfection: What You Need to Know



# COVID-19 Coronavirus Cleaning and Disinfection: What You Need to Know

As with any stressful event, especially those that pertain to the health and wellbeing of society members, such that the COVID-19 Coronavirus has created, there is often confusion about the facts. And while we can't discuss the virus itself, we have, and do specialize in the cleaning and disinfecting of infectious disease agents. After having heard of so many egregious stories from concerned health and safety managers from global corporations, we felt it necessary to inform as many people as possible as to the facts behind truth and myth surrounding the cleaning and disinfection of COVID-19

The Peniel Standard as applied to the COVID-19 Coronavirus dictates that we not only meet, but exceed the CDC standards for cleaning and disinfecting. We do that for obvious reasons, but the biggest one being there is too much to risk. Additionally, the CDC still doesn't know everything it needs to know about the virus itself. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

## Our Process Involves the Following

- Peniel's team will be in a modified Level A PPE
- Peniel will use products that are EPA registered to sanitize and kill bacteria and viruses up to, and including Coronavirus
- Peniel adheres to all required application processes for the dedicated disinfectant as per the label of each EPA approved disinfectant
- Peniel utilizes a CDC recommended two step process, first performing a necessary deep clean, then performing critical disinfection to the cleaned surface
- Project management by Osha Hazwoper 40 certified supervisors (Critical certification in the disinfecting process. always ensure that at least one person involved in the project has this certification, if not, they are not properly trained to undertake the job. Many commercial cleaning services and bio cleanup companies simply don't have this certification but yet still offer to perform services they are not qualified to perform)

## **Spraying and fogging alone for Covid-19 is not a CDC accepted or recommended process.**

When it comes to EPA certified disinfectants, the label is the law. Disinfectants have pre-determined processes with regards to the required elastic and wet state time frames in order for them to be effective, like antibiotics that need a specific maintained blood level over time to be effective at eradicating an illness, disinfectants applied on deep-cleaned surfaces need to maintain wet contact for a set predetermined time in order to mitigate the virus. These limits are critical when it comes to an effective disinfecting state. Sprayers and foggers are ineffective due to the aerosolization of the disinfectant, allowing it to dry far too soon and in too small a concentration to be effective.

## CDC Says the Following

“This technique of spraying of disinfectants is an unsatisfactory method of decontaminating air and surfaces”

## FDA Says the Following

“It is impossible to sanitize a surface that is still dirty”

“Spraying a surface with a sanitizing solution without first cleaning the surface properly is a waste of time and money.”

### **Peniel will disinfect:**

- All high touch horizontal surfaces both above and below: phones, keyboards, desks, tabletops, etc. should be cleaned using an industrial detergent prior to disinfection.
  - Many companies merely touch the top surfaces in an attempt to cut corners and cost, this is not an approved process
- All vertical surfaces to 10’ should be cleaned using an industrial detergent prior to disinfection.
  - Many companies don’t touch vertical surfaces or choose to touch vertical surfaces as far as their “reach” in order to cut corners, this is not an approved process
- Peniel will provide documentation on products used
  - Most companies will not provide this information because they are using unapproved processes for their use, rendering their effectiveness null and void, insist you see the label information in advance and understand the elastic and wet time frames necessary for their effectiveness to include the disbursement process
- Once property is disinfected Peniel will turn the property over to client

## **What you need to know when contracting with an infectious disease cleaning and disinfecting company**

The issue arises with so many companies trying to capitalize on the current pandemic by selling services that don’t meet the CDC standards. Caller after caller relay stories of companies trying to sign them on quickly by offering low cost services that they themselves “feel” are not adequate, “something just feels off”.

That’s because it is. In each and every case we analyzed a major part of the CDC minimum protocol is being

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# COVID-19 Coronavirus Sanitization Process



Assess and Evaluate Environment



Assess and Evaluate Traffic Patterns and Space Use



Peniel's team will be in a modified Level A PPE



Peniel will use products registered to clean bacteria and viruses up to and including Covid 19 above the current CDC requirements (corona virus)

## PENIEL WILL DISINFECT THE FOLLOWING:



All touch horizontal surfaces IE: phones, keyboards, desks, tablets should be cleaned using an industrial detergent prior to disinfection.



All vertical surfaces to 6' should be cleaned using an industrial detergent prior to disinfection.



Peniel will provide documentation on products used



**Once property is disinfected Peniel will turn the property over to client**

removed, and it's the more costly of the expenses, and obviously very important, and without it, you are throwing your money away. This step is a deep cleaning of the location.

If you have been offered “fogging” services, or services that rely on “sprayers” for disinfectant as their only due course of action to clean and sanitize the space, you should seriously rethink your course of action and walk away. But don't take our word for it.

## **What the CDC and the FDA say about Sanitization and Cleaning**

Joint Report Done by the University of Maryland and the FDA



“It is impossible to sanitize a surface that is still dirty”

Cleaning personnel need a working understanding of the type of substances to be cleaned the basic chemistry of its removal. Cleaning and sanitizing need to be performed in two separate steps. It is impossible to sanitize a surface that is still dirty. There must be an effective rinse after the cleaning step to remove detergent residue that can interfere with the action of chemical sanitizers.

“Spraying a surface with a sanitizing solution without first cleaning the surface properly is a waste of time and money.”

For a sanitizer to be effective, the surface being sanitized must be physically clean. One cannot sanitize a dirty surface—organic soils will consume the sanitizer. Detergent residues must be rinsed well—they will neutralize many sanitizers. Detergents are alkaline, most sanitizers are acidic. Detergents have negative charge, sanitizers have positive charge. Spraying a surface with a sanitizing solution without first cleaning the surface properly is a waste of time and money.

## **The CDC on Infectious Disease Sanitization and Coronavirus with Regards to Unsatisfactory & Ineffective Spraying and Fogging Methods**

“This technique of spraying of disinfectants is an unsatisfactory method of decontaminating air and surfaces”

Air disinfection disinfectant spray-fog techniques for anti-microbial control in hospitals has been used. This technique of spraying of disinfectants is an unsatisfactory method of decontaminating air and surfaces and is not recommended for general infection control.

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When it comes to the disinfection of COVID-19 taking shortcuts is like flushing money down the drain and playing Russian Roulette with everyone involved, not to mention the legal liability your company or organization may be exposed to. At Peniel we provide professional and effective disinfecting services that meet and exceed CDC standards. The minimums must be met. If anyone is telling you they can simply “fog” or “spray” without undertaking the painstaking work of pre-cleaning the surfaces is merely out to take your money. Don’t be fooled, these steps, although costing a little more, are an integral part of the disinfecting process and without it there is no way to mitigate the

risks associated with COVID-19.

Note: A clean surface does not mean it merely looks clean, it in fact needs to be scientifically clean. Like the virus itself, these biological contaminants, microbes, bacteria, and dirt are so microscopic that you can’t see them or feel them.

Make sure anyone you choose to consider has the proper cleaning process coupled with a proper disinfecting process, and both handled with the utmost in safety for both you, and them.

## **Proper Certifications**

When it comes to hiring a company to handle something as serious as COVID-19 disinfection, it’s imperative that you hire a company with the proper certifications and training to do the job properly. It’s this simple, the virus is dangerous and life threatening, but your space can be cleaned effectively by following the proper cleaning, disinfecting, and safety procedures as well as using the proper disinfecting agents during that process.

It’s amazing how many companies selling these services don’t possess the necessary certifications and training to provide these services to a high level. Here at Peniel we have always been committed to our training and retraining programs for not only our infectious disease unit, but all of the departments here. Anyone you look to hire should not only provide a proper process as mentioned above but maintain the following certifications as well.

**Liability Insurance Coverage Specific to Infectious Disease is Critical (most contractors don’t have this coverage, let alone proper policy limits)**

**Insist on Using Infectious Disease Specialists With a Tenured Background in the Industry, This is not the Time for Bolt on Services**

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## Other Key Factors to be Considered

- Ensure any contractor or specialist you’re considering has a genuine background in infectious disease control
- Ensure and demand copies of liability insurance coverage specific to infectious disease with proper limits
- Ensure any contractor or specialist you’re considering has the proper credentials and certifications for infectious disease cleanup
- Ensure any contractor or specialist you’re considering utilizes epidemiologists, hazardous materials specialists, certified industrial hygienists, and toxicologists for oversight of key phases
- Remember, it needs to be really clean first, then you need to have the right disinfecting agent, and you need to know how to perform the task professionally in order for it to mitigate your exposure to COVID-19. If you are being sold “fogging” or “spraying” services call us first to fully understand what you need, that is not an acceptable process and does not meet the CDC standard.

## Sentiment of the Day: Buyer Beware

**If you need assistance with Covid 19 cleaning and disinfection call Peniel Environmental and it’s National Network of infectious disease experts at 855-712-8434**

## If you need additional information contact:

New Jersey State Health Department  
1203 Paterson Plank Rd  
Secaucus, NJ 07094

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