

Custodial Cleaning Questions and Answers

Where/how will the PathoCide sanitizer/disinfectant product be obtained?

Answer: FMS will be providing spray bottles of PathoCide. Learning spaces will have spray bottles (# determined by occupancy) placed prior to the start of classes. Departments can request PathoCide for their office and common areas.

What is the proper procedure for using PathoCide?

Answer: PathoCide is the RIT provided EPA-approved disinfectant to be used in University spaces. FMS will place bottles in RIT learning spaces. Departments should have their Site Safety Monitors contact FMS to requests bottles for staff area use.

- Sarah Klein from the RIT Environmental Health and Safety Department has created a short instructional video. Here is the link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWV5WJk0OII&feature=youtu.be>
- Gloves are not required to use PathoCide unless irritation occurs.
- A printable pdf with instructions is available – email Kathleen Rydelek at kmrfms@rit.edu for a copy.
- Pre-clean the surface to be disinfected with soap and water if the surface is visibly dirty.
- Spray the Pathocide on hard surfaces and touch points, and let dwell for 10 minutes or until dry. For electronics, touchpads, screens and other liquid sensitive surfaces, spray on a paper towel and wipe.
- Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after using PathoCide.
Note: If other EPA-approved disinfectants are used by departments, they need to be procured by the department and users should follow all label directions for use, PPE, and dwell times. SDS sheets need to be entered into MSDSOnline for chemical inventories for disinfectants other than PathoCide.

How often are classrooms being cleaned?

Answer: Once per day.

What will be the cleaning frequency for the student laundry rooms in the tunnels?

Answer: Twice per day for disinfecting touchpoints.

Will labs and conference rooms that have been converted to classrooms be included in the 2x per day custodial cleaning or is this the responsibility of the Departments, faculty, or students taking classes in these rooms?

Answer: *Only restrooms and public area touch points will be cleaned 2x per day.*

If I purchase spray bottles for my Department, will FMS be able to supply the PathoCide solution to fill them?

Answer: *Departments can purchase their own spray bottles for cleaning. Since FMS will already be filling thousands of bottles per week, you will probably only be able to get refills 1x per week on a designated day.*

Can departments use their own disinfectants?

Answer: *Yes, as long as it is EPA-approved. The department must procure, manage, document Standard Operating Procedures (including incompatibility with PathoCide) with Environmental, Health, & Safety, and SDS information on their own for chemicals they use. FMS is providing PathoCide as a University-wide available disinfectant.*

FMS has been supplying PathoCide disinfectant to the research labs that were approved to open during the summer. Will there be PathoCide and paper towels available in large quantities for classrooms and labs holding classes to disinfectant table tops and computers before and after classes start?

Answer: *There will be PathoCide, but no paper towels are being supplied. The chemical is intended to be sprayed on and left for 10 minutes to be effective.*

How can I clean the plexiglass screen in my area?

Answer: *Since face coverings should be worn, you can dust the plexiglass shield with a dry cloth. If necessary, just use water and wipe it with a cloth.*

Are Kitchen common areas going to be cleaned?

Answer: *We will continue our normal service of common kitchen areas. Touch points will be disinfected a second time per day.*

Does FMS clean Microwaves in breakrooms?

Answer: *FMS does not clean kitchen appliances.*

Will bottles of disinfectant be left in the in res hall lounges and kitchenettes?

Answer: We will not be placing disinfectant in kitchenettes. We are still assessing whether any will be placed in the res hall lounges.

Water fountains - are they usable and will they will be cleaned?

Answer: We are not shutting down drinking fountains (bottle filler or regular) as the need to allow the RIT community to get water outside bathrooms is important and that neither the CDC or NYS School guidance calls for shutting them off, just increased disinfection like other touch points (RIT is doing that). If there is a concern, they should be cleaned, disinfected, and run a bit before use. Like with all touch points, individuals should wash their hands frequently or use hand sanitizer when touching door pulls, faucets, fountain handles, etc.

Keyboards – should I use the spray sanitizer on keyboards?

Answer: Spraying PathoCide directly on keyboards repeatedly through the day could lead to damage. We recommend spraying a paper towel with PathoCide to make a wipe and use that on keyboards and mice to disinfect without dousing it in liquid. Mist directly onto the keyboard at the beginning and end of the day should be okay if it dries. For liquid sensitive items, less use of PathoCide, more hand washing/sanitizing may be the way to avoid damage. Departments can use other disinfectants, but again, they need to work with Procurement. There are no wipes available at this time. Isopropyl Alcohol is flammable and needs to be limited - fire code and OFPC are aware.

How do I clean my touch screens, smart phone screens, or monitor screens?

Answer: Spraying PathoCide directly on screens repeatedly through the day could lead to damage so we recommend spraying a paper towel with PathoCide to make a wipe and use that on screens and electronics to disinfect without dousing it in liquid.

Since custodial staff will not be entering offices, can faculty and staff obtain access to a vacuum to clean up their own offices?

Answer: Unfortunately, we can't loan out the equipment. We will be more than happy to help guide a department to a source to purchase one.

Where can I request a replacement trash bin?

Answer: Please put in an FMS Work Order as we will need to order them from our supplier.

Did FMS do the typical carpet cleaning this summer?

Answer: *Not in all areas. The majority of the staff was placed on furlough.*

How are you keeping the air in the restrooms fresh?

Answer: *We have increased our air circulation in restrooms.*

What will be done about the cloud that forms when toilets are flushed?

Answer: *Restrooms have higher ventilation rates and in general, flushing and leaving the area reduces time in any cloud that may form. In general practice, especially with auto flush, the flush occurs after a person has left the stall which reduces the time in the cloud, and we are marking every other stall to increase spacing. Having paper towels instead of the air-blown hand dryers will also reduce any cloud spread.*

Will toilet seat covers be installed?

Answer: *We have looked into seat covers and the issues with them outweigh the minimal “cloud” reduction. Seats block the auto functions on our toilets, meaning you have to stay in the stall facing the toilet to flush, putting your face in the cloud area longer than flushing and leaving. Seats also greatly increase the cleaning requirements and risk of touch points. Many people will use toilet paper to avoid touching the seat, and then once it is closed, drop the toilet paper on the floor because the bowl is closed- which creates trash on the floor.*

Flushing and leaving the stall quickly is our recommendation.

