

GUIDE TO SAFETY COVID-19 RESPONSE

To prevent the spread of illness:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand sanitizer should be used when unable to wash hands due to worksite location.
- Disinfect common facility areas and touch points with 70% ethanol (ex: doors, light switches, refrigerator doors, tools, door handles, and steering wheels).
- Remind staff to stay home when they are not feeling well, or if any member of their household is ill. Send home any employee that is ill.
- If someone in the group begins to feel ill, they should notify others and leave work immediately.
- Consider alternating work schedules to meet the demands of research while limiting close contact with others. Lunches and breaks should be taken at staggered times or in separate locations.
- Identify work that can be done from home or remotely, such as data analysis.
- Do not schedule in-person meetings unless absolutely necessary. Use remote work technologies such as VPN, Skype, and Zoom conferencing to engage with others.
- If an essential team meetings must take place in person to demonstrate a technique, or at the beginning of a field day, maintain at least 6 feet of separation at all times.

Research and field activities

PREPARATION FOR FIELD OPERATIONS:

- Any task that can be performed at home should be done at home.
- When it is necessary to use campus facilities to prepare for field operations, try to assign personnel to separate rooms whenever possible.
- If personnel must work in the same room, maintain at least 6 feet of separation at all times.
- Develop a plan for keeping all work spaces and equipment sanitized regularly.

TRAVEL TO THE FIELD AND AROUND THE FIELD:

- Take separate vehicles/utility vehicles to the field site.
- If a team member has no vehicle, consider renting one (track as COVID-19 expense).
- If your team has a member who doesn't drive, either ask them to walk, bike, or use public transit if the field site is within CU or rent a minivan that allows for 6 feet of spacing between driver and passenger.
- If sharing vehicles/utility vehicles, regularly sanitize steering wheels, keys, door handles, etc.



FIELD OPERATIONS

Maintain at least 6 feet of separation at all times (e.g., do not have two team members riding side by side on the back of a cone planter).

SEVERE WEATHER

On-farm sheltering facilities are usually small and do not permit social distancing. The weather forecast/radar should be checked regularly, and interpreted conservatively. At the first notice of severe weather, employees should head home or seek shelter somewhere that 6 feet of separation can be maintained, and notify their supervisor.

Resources:

- OVCR, 3/13/2020: Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on the research enterprise
- COVID-19 campus resources
- Follow current directives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (e.g., face coverings). The CDC is constantly updating guidelines, so check often.

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