

EPA provides critical information to the American public about safe disinfectant use

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is continuing its efforts to provide critical information on surface disinfectant products that can be used to protect the health of all Americans throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. In support of these efforts, EPA now has nearly 400 products that have qualified to be effective against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This week the agency also published an [overview](#) of its actions and resources related to disinfection against the novel coronavirus.

“EPA is dedicated to its mission of protecting human health and we want all Americans to have access to effective and approved surface disinfectant products,” **said Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, assistant administrator of EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.** “We also want everyone follow the directions on the product so that we can safely use registered disinfectants and provide critical protection to our families.”

When using an EPA-registered surface disinfectant, always follow the product’s directions and remember:

- Never apply the product to yourself or others. Do not ingest disinfectant products. This includes never applying any product on [List N](#) (the agency’s list of disinfectants to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19) directly to food.
- Never mix products unless specified in the use directions. Certain combinations of chemicals will create highly toxic acids or gases.
- Wash the surface with soap and water before applying disinfectant products if the label mentions pre-cleaning.
- Follow the contact time listed for your product on [List N](#). This is the amount of time the surface must remain visibly wet to ensure efficacy against the virus. It can sometimes be several minutes.
- Wash your hands after using a disinfectant. This will minimize your exposure to the chemicals in the disinfectant and the pathogen you are trying to kill.

Additionally if people want to check and see if their favorite cleaner is one of the 400 items on the EPA's approved list to remove COVID they can follow the link below:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>



[List N: Disinfectants for Use
Against SARS-CoV-2 | Pesticide
Registration | US EPA](#)

www.epa.gov

Search EPA's list of registered disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
