Inspectional Services Department



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Newton Covid-19 Safety Guidelines for Construction Sites

EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020 CONSTRUCTION WILL RE-OPEN. THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE WORK STARTS.

The following guidelines are based on Interim CDC's Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), OSHA's Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, and other publications.

Construction industry employers shall develop a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control plan, which includes control measures such as physical distancing; symptom checking; hygiene; cleaning and decontamination procedures, and training. An exposure control plan and the following practices must be followed to prevent any onsite worker from contracting COVID-19, as many people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic and can potentially spread disease. Failure to comply with this guidance shall be deemed as creating unsafe conditions and may result in failed or incomplete inspection(s) or shutting down the construction site until corrected.

Inspectional Services staff will verify compliance with these guidelines during regular scheduled inspections for projects under construction as well as during investigations associated with complaints that may be submitted to Inspectional Services or unannounced site visits.

All contractors must post and implement the following guidelines:

- 1. Practice physical distancing by maintaining a minimum 6-foot distance from others.
- 2. Limit gatherings of any size, and anytime two or more people must meet, ensure minimum 6-foot separation.
- 3. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face coverings as appropriate for the activity being performed. Face coverings must be worn at all times on-site except in circumstances when the ability to maintain physical distance is certain.
- 4. The owner/contractor shall designate a site specific COVID-19 Supervisor to enforce this guidance. A designated COVID-19 Supervisor shall be present on the construction site at all times during construction activities. The COVID19 Supervisor can be an on-site worker who is designated to have this role.
- 5. Identify "choke points" and "high-risk areas" where workers are forced to stand together, such as hallways, hoists, elevators and break areas and manage them so physical distancing is maintained.
- 6. Minimize interactions when picking up or delivering equipment or materials. Ensure minimum 6-foot separation.
- 7. Stagger the trades as necessary to reduce density and maintain minimum 6-foot separation physical distancing.
- 8. Discourage workers from using other workers' phones, desks, offices, work tools and equipment. If necessary, clean and disinfect them before and after use.
- 9. Post, in areas visible to all worker, required hygiene practices including not touching face with unwashed hands or with gloves; washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, cleaning AND disinfecting frequently touched objects

and surfaces such as workstations, keyboards, telephones, handrails, machines, shared tools, elevator control buttons, and doorknobs; covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing as well as other hygienic recommendations by the CDC.

- 10. Place wash stations and/or hand sanitizers on-site to encourage hand hygiene.
- 11. Require workers to stay home if they are sick.

CONTRACTOR/HOMEOWNER:

- 12. Send any worker who develops signs of illness during the workday home.
- 13. Maintain a daily attendance log of all workers and visitors.
- 14. Require employees inform their supervisor if they have been diagnosed with COVID19 or a household member has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Please remember that any information regarding a positive COVID-19 diagnosis or possible exposure to COVID-19 is <u>strictly protected medical information</u>. This information MAY NOT be shared with other workers without the explicit permission of the affected staff member under any circumstances.

If you have questions or concerns related to a possible COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure in your workplace, please contact Newton Health and Human Services for assistance at 617-796-1420.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the above and will follow these and CDC guidelines in prosecuting the work on-site.

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