

## CLEANING, LAUNDRY AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROTOCOL

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### PURPOSE

In alignment with public health recommendations, Community Living Toronto (CLTO) is taking measures to prevent community spread of COVID-19, which includes undertaking enhanced cleaning and disinfection, laundry and waste disposal procedures. The following protocol provides guidance on cleaning and disinfection, laundry and waste disposal at any CLTO residential location that is open during the pandemic.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff responsible for or working at any CLTO residential location that is open.

### SCOPE

Any CLTO residential location that is open

### PROTOCOL

#### Cleaning and Disinfection

- In addition to the measures below, all residential locations that are open must follow the enhanced cleaning protocol outlined in [Public Health Ontario's factsheet: Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings](#).
  - Clean frequently touched surfaces at least twice daily using usual cleaning supplies.
  - Common areas including bathrooms, should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at least twice per day and when visibly dirty.
  - Have and post a regular schedule for cleaning all surfaces.
  - Clean and disinfect the mattress and resident's living space between residents.
  - Wearing a surgical/procedure mask, eye protection, gowns and gloves, thoroughly clean and disinfect the room where a COVID-19 positive or ill resident stayed after they have moved out of the room and if they remain in the room, after their symptoms resolve and they are determined to be no longer infectious.
  - Ensure the use of the appropriate products and that the product remains on surfaces for the appropriate time (contact time).
  - Items that are used by different residents should be thoroughly cleaned between each resident use.
  - Remove shared items that are difficult to clean and declutter.
  - Cleaning should also be extended to the exterior of the congregate living setting if there is a concern that residents may pick up cigarette butts and other debris from the areas outside of the setting.
  - Vehicles used for transporting residents should be cleaned between uses.
- There is no change in cleaning responsibilities: most locations are to continue being cleaned by staff and some locations by a third party.

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- If a resident is diagnosed as COVID - 19 positive, the enhanced cleaning protocol remains in effect and supplemented by medical grade surface wipes (if available).
- When an outbreak is declared over, a third-party cleaner will be engaged to conduct a terminal clean of the location.

### Laundry and Bedding

- Wear gloves and a gown when handling dirty laundry.
- Use regular laundry soap and hot water (60°C-90°C) for laundering.
- Residents have their own clean bedding and towels, which are not shared.
- Wash bedding and towels on a regular schedule for residents who stay in the facility.
- Change bedding every one to two weeks
- Change bath towels after used three times.

### Waste Disposal

- Home health care waste does not belong in the Blue Bin recycling program.
- The items below are considered hazardous waste because they are dangerous or toxic:
  - Syringes
  - Needles
  - Lancets
  - Injectors
  - Pre-filled pens
- These items should be put in a sealed container labeled “sharps” and taken to one of these locations:
  - Local pharmacy
  - City Drop-off Depots
  - Community Environment Day
- For all household hazardous waste between 10 to 50 litres/kilograms, residences can also request a free Toxic Taxi pick-up through 311.
- The following items can go in your Garbage Bin:
  - Dialysis waste (e.g. filters, disposable towels & sheets)
  - IV bags & tubing, gastric & nasal tubes
  - Soiled dressing, sponges and gauze
  - Catheters & colostomy bags
  - Disposable pads, gowns, gloves, masks & aprons

### Related Documentation

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-environmental-cleaning.pdf?la=en>

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