

Outdoor Maintenance COVID-19 Requirements

Summary of February 1, 2021, changes:

Updated the document to have formatting consistent with the “Healthy Washington” plan.

Included here: Lawn care, design, greenery and hardscape maintenance, and arboriculture; window and power washing, roof cleaning, and outdoor extermination; and other substantially similar activities.

Not included here: Indoor maintenance and office-based administrative functions of an outdoor maintenance company.

All business owners are required to develop a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure-control, mitigation, and recovery plan at each establishment. A site-specific COVID-19 monitor shall be designated at each location to monitor the health of individuals and enforce the COVID-19 plan. A copy of the plan must be available at all locations and available for inspection by state and local authorities. Failure to meet this requirement may result in sanctions up to, and including, license suspension.

Many people involved in the outdoor maintenance industry work alone. To the extent that a provision is *entirely* inapplicable to a single-person operation, it need not be followed. For example, a reference to commuting with other employees has no bearing on a single-person operation.

All Phases:

1. Gatherings of any size must be prevented by taking breaks, performing activities and eating meals in shifts. Stagger crew start times to minimize congregation at office/shop locations.
2. Eliminate client contact whenever possible.
3. Maintain six feet of distancing at all times.
4. Whenever possible, have employees drive separately to job sites, to allow for only one person per vehicle.
5. If employees meet at a central location and travel to job site in company owned vehicles, keep trucks assigned to the same crewmembers.
6. Ensure that employees wear facial coverings or masks in accordance with Washington Department of Labor & Industries guidance [here](#).
7. Minimize or eliminate use of shared equipment and tools. If tools are shared, sanitize between use according to CDC guidelines. Sanitize all tools daily after use according to CDC guidelines.
8. Sanitize jobsites upon arrival and departure (gate handles, hoses, etc.) to meet CDC guidelines.
9. Enforce cleaning and sanitation protocols for all common spaces including trucks, equipment, and the breakroom, locker room and restroom.
10. Frequently clean and disinfect commonly touched objects and surfaces in any workplace such as workstations, keyboards, telephones, handrails, machines, shared tools, elevator control buttons, and doorknobs and restrooms.
11. Make disinfectants available to workers throughout their work areas, and ensure cleaning supplies are frequently replenished.

Safety and Health Requirements

All employers have a general obligation to maintain a safe and healthy workplace in accordance with state and federal law and safety and health rules for a variety of workplace hazards. Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main Labor & Industries COVID-19 requirements to protect workers. COVID-19 workplace and safety requirements can be found [here](#).

Additional information is available at [Novel Coronavirus Outbreak \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) and [Paid Leave under the Washington Family Care Act and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#).