1. What standards and guidelines is UVA using to ensure that buildings are clean and disinfected?
   UVA is using guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Governor’s Higher Education Reopening Guidance, and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) along with housekeeping industry standards and best practices.

2. What does enhanced cleaning mean?
   UVA’s existing cleaning protocols contain highly prescriptive work elements for cleaning and disinfecting spaces based on industry standards and best practices combined with a comprehensive staff development and training program, an inspection and quality assurance program, and a metrics-driven continuous improvement program. UVA’s cleaning program is industry certified and has won multiple awards. On June 11, 2020, UVA’s custodial staff received the Effective and Innovative Practices Award from APPA, the premier professional organization for higher education facilities management.

   Enhanced cleaning builds on this robust program and incorporates recommendations from the CDC, VDH, and the Governor’s Higher Education Reopening Guidance document. These include disinfection using EPA-approved disinfectants, and frequent disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by multiple people.

3. How long does the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 live on surfaces?
   Research published in The New England Journal of Medicine (see link) found viable virus up to 72 hours on plastic and 48 hours on stainless steel, and no viable virus on cardboard after 24 hours and copper after 4 hours. However, in all cases, the amount of virus remaining decreased exponentially with time.

4. Will UVA provide sanitizer solution?
   Yes, UVA will provide sanitizer stanchions at building main entrances, on floors, and near elevators, which will be refilled as needed by custodial staff.

5. Will the University or my department provide cleaning products such as disinfecting wipes, or do I need to bring these from home?
   Initial stocks are being provided. Ongoing restocking and resupplying will be provided by departments.

6. What are “high touch” surfaces and when will these be disinfected?
   The CDC includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc. in high traffic areas as high touch surfaces. These surfaces will be wiped throughout the day. In addition, the UVA community is encouraged to use disinfecting product before and after using these high touch surfaces.
7. How will classrooms be cleaned?
Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily using UVA’s Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures. Disinfecting product will be provided in classrooms so that educators and students can disinfect podiums, desks, chairs, and tabletops before and after use.

8. How will residential halls be cleaned?
Residential hall rooms and similar private spaces will be cleaned as they normally are by the individuals in those spaces. Public spaces will be cleaned per UVA’s Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures.

9. How will offices, laboratories and similar private spaces be cleaned?
Offices, laboratories, and similar private spaces will be cleaned as they normally are by the individuals in those spaces. Public spaces will be cleaned per UVA’s Enhanced Custodial Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures. Centralized trash and recycling are being implemented to the extent feasible to minimize the need for custodial staff to enter these spaces.

10. How will kitchenettes be cleaned?
These spaces will be cleaned each day by the custodial staff per UVA’s Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures. However, because kitchenettes and similar centralized coffee, drink, and snack areas in buildings are in constant use with high turnover, individuals will need to use disinfecting product before and after using appliances, coffee makers, refrigerators, sink fixtures, and microwaves. Individuals may want to bring their own food and beverages in a cooler to limit use of shared appliances.

11. What about recreational facilities and pools?
IMRec-Sports facilities will be cleaned per UVA’s Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures, which include specific practices for gym equipment.

12. Does my department need to hire a supplemental cleaning company?
No supplemental cleaning company is needed.

13. My building is small and only gets cleaned twice a week. What happens here?
Smaller facilities as well as those with low intensity of use are serviced fewer than five days/week. Employees in these facilities are encouraged to use disinfecting product on high touch surfaces in between cleaning.

14. Who is going to clean the new plexiglass and acrylic panels that were installed to provide physical barriers?
These will be cleaned during routine cleaning on a frequency similar to glass doors and interior windows.

15. What is UVA planning to do with outdoor spaces and surfaces?
UVA will follow CDC guidance, which recommends normal routine cleaning and recommends against disinfection of parks, playgrounds, wooden surfaces (structures, benches, tables), groundcovers (mulch, sand), walks, and roadways.
16. What actions does the CDC recommend that I do to protect myself and my colleagues?

The CDC recommends that you practice social distancing, wear facial coverings, avoid touching your face, and follow proper prevention hygiene, such as washing your hands frequently and using alcohol-based (at least 60% alcohol) hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

17. How are leased spaces being cleaned?

UVA recommends all property managers supporting University personnel adopt CDC cleaning protocols at a minimum although they may want to adopt measures equivalent to UVA’s Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures.

18. What happens in a space in which an employee, student, or visitor who has been in the space tests positive?

The CDC recommends that the impacted space be closed for at least 24 hours from the time that the ill person was last in the area. They also recommend that custodial staff wait 24 hours or as long as practical to begin cleaning and disinfection. UVA is following best practices and closing the area if the ill person was in the space within the last 48 hours. After seven days, the CDC indicates that additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary, though custodial services is using the UVA Enhanced Cleaning Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures at this time for all spaces.

UVA FM has also developed a standard operating procedure and trained staff on how to clean and disinfect a COVID-19 impacted space within 24 hours of the ill person having been in the space. To clean within 24 hours, however, requires approval by the director of operations or her designee as closure is the recommended practice within that time period.

*Please note that it will be extremely helpful to provide the date and time when the ill person was last in an area as well as a listing of spaces the ill person used or occupied so that appropriate response can be provided. If the last known occupancy by the ill person cannot be determined, Facilities will close the space for 48 hours before entering to clean.*

**RESOURCES AND REFERENCES**

1. CDC Background

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) Considerations for Institutes of Higher Education lists the following information concerning the transmission of COVID-19:

· The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person. Transmission occurs between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets that are produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. The infected person may not be showing symptoms.

· It may be possible for a person to get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. However, this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads as the CDC is still learning more about how it spreads.
2. Relevant Links

https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/environmental-cleaning/