COVID-19 and Collections Care

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Overview of Today’s Presentation

- Background
- Disinfecting Books & Other Collections
- Staff Safety
- Remote Monitoring
- Emergency Preparedness
- Continuity of Operations Planning
- Resources
- Question and Answer Session
“The primary and most important mode of transmission for COVID-19 is through close contact from person-to-person. Based on data from lab studies on COVID-19 and what we know about similar respiratory diseases, it may be possible that a person can 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, but this isn’t thought to be the main way the virus spreads.”

-CDC Media Statement, May 22, 2020
https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0522-cdc-updates-covid-transmission.html
Disinfecting Books & Other Collections

- NEDCC Preservation Leaflet 3.5: https://www.nedcc.org/free-resources/preservation-leaflets/3.-emergency-management/3.5-disinfecting-books - **under review**

- Recommending a 72-hour quarantine of collections items after handling by staff and patrons
  - A shorter quarantine time may be appropriate for certain materials, such as paper or plain cardboard: https://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMc2004973?articleTools=true
Disinfecting Books & Other Collections

Reopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) Information Hub: A COVID-19 Research Project

- [https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/COVID-19-research-project/about.html](https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/COVID-19-research-project/about.html)
- Preliminary Literature Review: [https://www.webjunction.org/content/dam/WebJunction/Documents/webJunction/realm/preliminary-lit-review.pdf](https://www.webjunction.org/content/dam/WebJunction/Documents/webJunction/realm/preliminary-lit-review.pdf)
- Further research results to be published late summer, 2020
Non-conservators should surface clean only; train staff and volunteers as needed

- Use non-invasive, non-chemical techniques and materials
- When in doubt, contact a conservator

Using liquid disinfectants is not recommended

UV ray exposure is not recommended

Correspondence on Preservation Administrators’ Interest Group list-serv: [https://lists.ala.org/sympa/arc/padg/2020-02/msg00003.html](https://lists.ala.org/sympa/arc/padg/2020-02/msg00003.html)
Staff Safety

• Use powder-free nitrile or latex gloves such as these: [https://www.gaylord.com/Preservation/Conservation-Supplies/Gloves/4-mil-Powder-Free-Nitrile-Gloves-%28100-Pack%29/p/HYB09147](https://www.gaylord.com/Preservation/Conservation-Supplies/Gloves/4-mil-Powder-Free-Nitrile-Gloves-%28100-Pack%29/p/HYB09147)

• Wear gloves when moving materials into quarantine

• Dispose of gloves after use and wash hands in accordance to CDC guidelines: [https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html)
Staff Safety

ART SERVICES WORKER SAFETY COALITION

SUGGESTED PPE CHART
These are suggested minimum PPE requirements

This chart is a living document, to be used to define the minimum PPE standards during the COVID-19 crisis.

The goal of this chart is to outline and define the minimum PPE that employees working in the arts industry during the COVID-19 crisis should be provided with. Because of the evolving nature of the COVID-19 crisis, this chart may be updated to reflect the most current recommendations from city, state and federal sources. Nothing in this document is meant to supersede or contradict official recommendations issued through health agencies or other government entities.

Implementation of the PPE chart below is voluntary, but highly recommended.

Employer will provide employees with the necessary protective equipment. For fabric face coverings, employee may provide their own as long as they meet minimum requirements to be established and enforced by employer.

These recommendations should not be used in lieu of any recommendations from the CDC, OSHA, or other governing health bodies that exceed the standard of the below recommendations. You can download a PDF version of this chart here.

**EMPLOYER PROVIDES**

- Face covering or disposable masks that cover nose and mouth
- Face shields, as needed or requested
- Gloves, as needed
- Hand Sanitizer
- Janitorial protective supplies

Employees are expected to wear provided PPE as described in the PPE REQUIREMENTS chart below. All parties present during in-person appointments are expected to reciprocate.

**WORKER/SCENARIO**

- Face covering or mask at all times

https://www.artservicesworkersafetycoalition.com/
Hand Sanitizer

  https://www.loc.gov/preservation/scientists/projects/sanitize.html
- Increases degradation of coated and noncoated papers
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers showed the most significant changes
- Hand washing is recommended instead.
Remote Monitoring of Collections

- Limited monitoring capabilities increases potential impact of:
  - Security issues
  - Water incursion
  - Mold
  - Pests
- CCI Note “Closing a Museum for the Winter”
- Partner with facilities and other essential staff
- Remote monitoring options:
1. Mitigation/Prevention
2. Preparedness
3. Response
4. Recovery
Writing a Disaster Plan
Phone Tree/Emergency Call List

Emergency: Dial 9-911

Visitor Center Staff are to dial # 9-911 to report all emergencies such as fires, bomb threats, acts of physical violence and life threatening, critical emergencies.

When calling # 9-911, be prepared to provide the following information:

1. Your name, title, and telephone number.
2. The nature of the emergency.
3. The exact location of the emergency.
4. The victim or other persons involved.

After calling 911, call the Ranger Station at extension 2817.

Suspicious Person Guideline

If you have a problem or suspicious person in the visitor center or other locations and they have not responded to an appropriate helpful contact, or if you feel uncomfortable making that contact, proceed as follows:

1. If you believe the suspicious person is a threat and/or an emergency, call # 9-911. Otherwise contact your supervisor and Ranger Services at extension 2817.

2. Alert your supervisor. Observe, but DO NOT CONFRONT THE PERSON. Let law enforcement staff do their job.

3. Ask the victim (if any) to remain until rangers/officers arrive.

4. Obtain names, addresses, and phone numbers of witnesses.

Emergency: Dial 9-911
Business Continuity Planning

• Identifying critical functions
  • Maintaining a website
  • Monitoring collections
  • Access to catalog & e-resources
  • Communication with patrons
  • Etc.

• Assessing vulnerabilities

• Prioritizing functions

• Creating contingency plans
  • Remote access for staff
  • Remote monitoring of environmental conditions
  • Curbside pickup
Planning to Reopen

• ALA, Libraries Respond: COVID-19 Survey:

• ALA, “Planning for Reopening Resources”
  http://www.ala.org/advocacy/planning-reopening-resources

• Sample plans:
  • AASLH: http://aaslh.org/covid19/
  • REALM project:
    https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/COVID-19-research-project.html

• Include quarantine procedures in your plan

• Provide training for staff

Cultural Heritage Resource Guides

- FDLP- COVID-19 Toolkit: Federal Depository Library Program:

- AIC Collections Care Amid COVID-19:

- ALCTS Handling Library Materials and Collections During a Pandemic:
  http://www.ala.org/alcts/preservationweek/resources/pandemic

- ARCS COVID-19 Resources
  http://www.arcsinfo.org/programs/resources/covid-19-resources

- Smithsonian COVID-19 Resource Hub:
  https://culturalrescue.si.edu/hentf/major-disasters/current-disasters/
Sanitizing Collections

- NEDCC, “Disinfecting Books and Other Collections”
  https://www.nedcc.org/free-resources/preservation-leaflets/3.-emergency-management/3.5-disinfecting-books
- ALA, “How to Sanitize Collections in a Pandemic”
  https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/how-to-sanitize-collections-covid19/
  https://www.loc.gov/preservation/scientists/projects/sanitize.html
Sanitizing Your Facility

- CDC, “Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility” [link]
- EPA, “List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2” [link]
- CDC, “What Mail and Parcel Delivery Drivers Need to Know about COVID-19” [link]
Additional Resources

Disaster Plan Resources and Templates

- dPlan: https://www.dplan.org/
- Library of Congress www.loc.gov/preservation/emergprep/
Additional Resources

- Dropbox Link: 
  https://bit.ly/3gT9B8l
- Contains:
  - ArtsReady, “What is a Readiness Plan?”
  - Business Continuity Planning Workbook
  - Slides

http://goo.gl/RyG4DD
Questions?

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