

# GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19

## Helpful Tips and Information for On-site Sewage System Professionals

### IS COVID-19 FOUND IN SEWAGE?

COVID-19 concentrations and survival in feces, sewage or water are currently unknown. However, other Coronaviruses can survive for some time in settled sewage.



### TREATMENT OF COVID-19 IN SEWAGE

Coronavirus concentrations in general are susceptible to the same disinfection conditions (e.g. oxidation with hypochlorite and peracetic acid, ultraviolet irradiation) as other viruses.

### TAKING PROPER PRECAUTIONS

- Use physical barriers to prevent exposure to splashes or sprays of wastewater.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE): goggles, liquid repellent coveralls and gloves, face mask or face shield.
- Be trained on how to properly put on, use, wear, take off, clean/disinfect, maintain, store, and dispose of PPEs.
- Wash hands with soap and water immediately after handling waste or sewage before eating or drinking, and before and after using the toilet.
- Avoid touching face, mouth, eyes, nose, and open sores and cuts while handling sewage.
- Remove work clothes before eating, and eat in designated areas.
- Do not chew tobacco or gum.
- Cover open sores, cuts, and wounds with clean dry bandages.
- Remove work clothes before leaving worksite.



Indiana State  
Department of Health

To promote, protect, and improve the  
health and safety of all Hoosiers.

For more information:

<https://www.in.gov/coronavirus/>