

# COVID-19 | Restroom Use & Maintenance Bulletin

PREPARED BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

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## PURPOSE & NEED

Columbia University is in the process of preparing for the fall 2020 semester during the COVID-19 recovery period with new established health and safety protocols that will necessitate modifications to the use and operations of our campus facilities, public and program spaces. In support of the ramp-up efforts being coordinated by the Facilities & Campus Life Working Group, the following bulletin is issued to address restroom use and maintenance during the initial ramp-up phase of campus life and operations.

## PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

### FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT

- Campus Operations currently is installing automatic sensor-activated sink faucets and lavatory flushometers in restrooms across campus where they are not already in use. These fixtures will provide best practice in restroom hygiene, lowering the risk for restroom users.
- Automatic sensor-activated hand dryers with HEPA filters and touchless paper towel dispensers currently are being evaluated for use across campus.
- Toilet and sink fixtures taken offline will be marked with a sign noting 'NOT IN USE'.

### CLEANING

- Following the COVID19 Custodial Plan, restroom cleaning will meet or exceed newly issued standards from the CDC, NYS DOH and OSHA. Cleaning supplies in use are rated to disinfect SARS-COV-2 virus.
- Steam cleaning service will be increased from the current practice of once per month to weekly. Steam cleaning of restrooms is a process that uses heat from steam to disinfect and kill germs without chemicals. This process is an enhancement to CDC and NYS DOH cleaning and disinfecting guidelines.

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Signage will be installed at the entrance to each restroom noting recommended capacity, features such as touchless faucets as well as spacing and hygiene recommendations.
- Sample communication: "To reduce the risk of spreading COVID19, this restroom's capacity has been temporarily reduced to [X]. If this facility currently is at the recommended capacity, please wait outside and queue at the marks provided. This restroom also features touchless sensor-activated fixtures."

### LAYOUTS

- Plan layouts noting queuing locations and recommended spacing for typical restrooms of various sizes around campus are included here for reference.