



General Waste Disposal Guidance for Collecting Waste



Sanitize! Don't worry. You *can* collect trash bags from homes or the dumpster without getting infected. Bring multiple disinfectant wipes in a sealed container so they don't dry out, and wear gloves if you have them. Also, have hand sanitizer ready to use at work once you finish working with the trash.

Shared surfaces - Disinfect with a wipe both Before and After you touch shared surfaces. For example, the dumpster lid, rim, or handle, the collection cart hitch, or any doors.



◆ **Does someone else use your work vehicle?** Remember to wipe the handlebars, steering wheel, throttle, gear shift, etc. before you start work and afterwards,

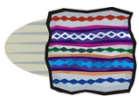


Gloves - If you sanitize what you touched with the gloves and don't touch your face, you won't spread the virus by reusing your gloves.

- ◆ Treat your gloves like they are infected.
- ◆ Take the gloves off carefully when all the bags are collected and unloaded, or you need a break. Try not to touch the outside.
- ◆ If your gloves are rubber, wash them off. If cloth, launder as often as possible.
- ◆ Sanitize or wash your hands as soon as possible. If you don't have running water and soap, use sanitizer. If you don't have sanitizer, then use wipes.
- ◆ After you sanitize or wash your hands, disinfect what you touched. Think doors and locks and water faucets for example. Then sanitize your hands again for good measure.
- ◆ If going back to work, rotate in a cleaned, dry pair of gloves if possible.
- ◆ Once back home, like everyone else, sanitize or wash your hands the very first thing you do, and sanitize whatever you touched before you sanitized your hands.



6-foot rule! If there is someone outside the house or dumpster that you are collecting from, stay 6 feet away from them. Ask them to please move while you are doing your job. Remember the 6-foot rule applies even if you are driving a snowmachine ATV.



◆ A cloth face cover is recommended when you are unable to stay 6 feet away from non-household members. Infected people may not show symptoms, *including you*. A face covering reduces the chance of infecting others. If you can change your waste management activities so that you are always 6 feet away, there is no recommendation for a face cover related to Covid-19 transmission.



◆ Collecting waste in town normally has a high chance of being close to non-household members. Unless you collect during times when others are not around, like early morning, you should likely wear a cloth covering. **But be careful!** To make, use, and wear a face cover correctly, see the [State of Alaska Recommendations regarding cloth face coverings](#).

Changing practices! The less people touching shared surfaces the better. Is waste collected from shared dumpsters or trash carts/bins? **Switch to house-to-house collection, if possible.**



That way, residents are not all touching the shared containers. It protects them and the waste collector.



- ◆ Don't take trash directly from anyone.
- ◆ Have them leave it so you can pick it up and keep 6 feet away.
- ◆ Mop workspaces and public areas at the end of the day.
- ◆ Keep in mind who might use indoor facilities-- like sheds, after you leave. Leave it safe for them.
- ◆ Keep your work clothes and other PPE at work. Launder them regularly.