

CITYWIDE COVID-19 28-DAY CLEANSING BLITZ

FAQs for the Community

What are you doing and why?

We have been tasked with rapidly hiring over 1,500 extra staff to cleanse and sanitise local streets and suburban infrastructure in your Council area, to slow the spread of COVID-19 through contact transmission.

This service is part of the State Government's Working for Victoria jobs creation scheme to help those displaced from their regular employment by the COVID-19 crisis and to provide extra cleansing and sanitisation services to local communities.

Over four weeks, our teams will be disinfecting public infrastructure and shopping strips to help build community confidence as the staged lifting of restrictions begins.

What chemicals are you using?

We are using a number of safe products, including Lemon Disinfectant and Q-Form Professional Disinfectant. The products are classified as non-hazardous, meaning they are hygiene safe and eco-friendly.

Material Safety Data Sheets for all products are available for download from:
<https://www.citywide.com.au/media-room/covid19/covid19-community-page>

How long are you doing this for?

Presently, this is an intensive short-term program running from May 16th for the following 28 days.

Why are your teams spraying and wiping obscure parts of street furniture, light poles, bollards etc. that the public wouldn't normally touch?

Your Council has chosen what our crews must clean and where. This includes public infrastructure and common touchpoints such as pedestrian crossing buttons, bins, public seating, bike hoops, shop door handles and more.

Our crews are also cleansing and wiping items such as bollards and light poles, including below adult waist height because these are areas that young children or pets could touch or rub against, making contact with a potentially-contaminated surface.

How often are surfaces being cleansed in each public space?

We are scheduling the teams to cleanse all areas nominated by Council twice a day. We have found that as the teams settle into their routes and the process for cleansing, they have additional capacity. We are working with your Council to direct this additional capacity to either increased frequency (up to 4 times a day) or expanding the number of areas being serviced.

For further info, visit: www.citywide.com.au/media-room/covid19

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Who's paying for all of this?

The State Government is funding this program. It is being provided at no cost to local ratepayers, residential or business.

Should we be concerned about the chemicals you're using or the damage to the environment?

All disinfectant products we are using are classified as non-hazardous, meaning they are eco-friendly.

Our method of application is spraying surfaces and then wiping them down. In this way, we are cleaning up after ourselves and not leaving large volumes of disinfectant to escape into the environment, regardless of their non-hazardous classification.

Human health is the highest priority; at the moment this needs to take precedence over everything else.

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Are we still at high risk of contracting coronavirus from communal touchpoints?

Overseas evidence suggests wholesale cleansing and disinfecting of public spaces and community infrastructure helps to combat the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

By allowing our teams in to cleanse infrastructure assets, this helps to reduce any potential contamination, along with adhering to appropriate hygiene practices and physical distancing measures.

Are you cleansing parks and playgrounds as well?

Following the State Government's updated advisory in late May directing the reopening of Council parks and playgrounds, we have expanded the scope of works to include all parks and playgrounds that your local Council have specified for cleansing.

Furthermore, we have documented our Child Safety Procedures and Code of Conduct in response to the expanded scope of works that include playgrounds. Please click the following heading - [Children's Safety Code of Conduct](#) - to view the policy document.

For further info, visit: www.citywide.com.au/media-room/covid19

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How can we be sure playground equipment is properly cleansed and sanitised?

To provide a more effective and efficient service on the playground and exercise equipment, particularly timber equipment, we will be equipping our teams with mist blowers. Rather than spraying and wiping the surfaces, crews will mist the assets letting the product dry and create a better, more protective barrier on the surface of the equipment treated.

All disinfectant products we are using are classified as non-hazardous, meaning they are eco-friendly and safe.

Can I apply for a job?

To register for the Working for Victoria program, visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria>

For further info, visit: www.citywide.com.au/media-room/covid19