

EH&S COVID-19 Prevention Practices for Site Visits



The Environmental Health & Safety department (EH&S) is following all requirements for the University [COVID-19 Prevention Plan](#). In addition to conducting our work remotely whenever possible, we are including daily symptom attestations and staying home if we are sick or experiencing symptoms, wearing face coverings or facemasks and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others, and reducing the number of individuals present for service visits. The health and safety of people working on campus is our highest priority, which is why we continue to conduct critical EH&S services, such as lab safety inspections, chemical waste collections, clinical exams, and service visits. We will strive to make our visits as brief as possible without impacting the quality or thoroughness of the visit.

How EH&S is modifying practices during site visits

- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other individuals at all times. This may require one person to enter a room alone, and then exit before discussing observations.
- Wear face coverings or facemasks when others are present.
- Wear dedicated or disposable lab coats, gloves, and eye protection when appropriate.
- Wash hands before and after each trip into the field and whenever deemed necessary.
- Disinfect equipment and tools shared or handled by others in the field before and after use.
- Request documents, records, and plans in advance to reduce the need to handle or review them in person.
- Minimize in-person follow up or discussions about findings.
- Reduce social interactions to one person from the client space and one person from EH&S.
- Use tools such as Zoom or FaceTime to review particular spaces in place of in-person visits when adequate and appropriate.
- Contact you ahead of inspection visits to discuss any site-specific considerations or safety measures needed.

How you can prepare for site visits with EH&S

- Submit any questions you have to EH&S so that we can help you address them ahead of time.
- If possible, coordinate a time when people are least likely to be physically in a space.
- Notify personnel, neighbors, or others who share your equipment/facility of scheduled visits in advance. If possible, they should not be present for the visit.
- Email EH&S a copy of your COVID-19 Prevention Plan in advance, so we are aware of your practices and can provide feedback as needed.
- Assemble requested or applicable records, documents, and safety plans, and send via email.
- Wear a face covering and/or appropriate PPE during the visit.
- Organize materials and items in the room to maintain 6 feet of physical distance between people during the visit.

We understand this is a challenging time for many, and the health and safety of all University community members is our highest priority.

Please contact EH&S at 206.543.7262 / ehsdept@uw.edu for additional information