

April 9, 2021

Good afternoon, Lessor Community.

Thank you for your continued support as the Commonwealth and its agencies have navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts to our workplaces. Since our last communication, the Governor's Office, DGS, and our customer agencies have continued to deliver vital services to Pennsylvanians whether they have been productively working via telework, on-site, or through a combination thereof. At this time, agencies are developing plans for their "Return to Work," comprised of continued, non-emergency telework, onsite work, and an eventual reopening of public offices, if applicable.

Given the increased occupancy limits and agencies' planning for return, DGS will no longer notify you when staff are returning to leased locations. At this time, all lessors are to operate all leased locations as if the Commonwealth has reoccupied to allowable limits. We will continue to notify the lessor when a COVID 19 positive commonwealth employee has been in a leased facility within the last three days (per updated guidance as immediately below).

DGS continues to review the current safety measures in place to keep our employees and your building staff safe and healthy. Our lessor community has been supportive in ensuring continued, daily CDC-guided enhanced cleaning as well as maintaining open lines of communication for critical on-site issues. **For this effort, we sincerely thank you!** In continuing to highlight changes within the CDC or Department of Health (DOH) guidelines, we would like to draw your attention to recently updated guidance specific to [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#), updated just this week. Specific updates to these guidelines include:

- Cleaning should be done once per day (with a continued focus on high-touch points) and disinfect only when there has been an exposure and other conditions;
- Wait "several hours" after a positive case was in an area before cleaning and disinfecting – a reduction from 24 hours;
- If it has been more than 24 hours since the positive case was in the area, daily enhanced cleaning is enough; and
- If it has been more than 3 days since the positive case was in the area, daily cleaning is enough – reduced from 7 days.

Please take time to review these updates and inform your in-house and/or contracted custodial staff to ensure the guidelines are maintained. DGS also encourages use of the provided cleaning logs that track the completion of daily enhanced cleaning as described in our April 2020. In addition, below find hyperlinks to all previously provided guidance:

- [All Previous Commonwealth Lessor Communications](#) (and links to template building signage)
- [May 11, 2020 Lessor Communication, including FAQs and Resources](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation](#)
- [CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease, May 2020](#)
- [Guidance for Building Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Order Directing Building Safety Measures \(DOH, April 2, 2020\)](#)

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- [Order Directing Public Health Safety Measures for Businesses Permitted to Maintain In-person Operations \(DOH, April 19, 2020\)](#)
- [PA Department of Health Website: Responding to COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)
- [PA Department of Environmental Protection Guidance for Dormant Building Water Flushing](#)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the content of this update, please contact Beth Christian, Director for the DGS Bureau of Real Estate via email at elchristia@pa.gov or at by phone at 717-712-8548. We appreciate your continued collaboration and support.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curt Topper', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Curt Topper
Secretary