

COVID-19 can be indirectly transmitted between people when they touch surfaces that contain infected droplets. Surfaces that are most frequently touched by visitors with their hands are the most likely surfaces to be contaminated. Examples of high-touch surfaces in the trail environment include:

 Frontcountry and backcountry washrooms / toilets	 Pay Parking Machines	 Visitor Service Buildings (visitor information centres, pay booths, gate houses etc.)	 Bike Lockers, Racks & Wash Stations
 Signage & Interpretive Displays	 Waste & Recycling Receptacles	 Water Fountains	 Picnic Tables & Benches
 Day Use Shelters	 Railings, Handrails & Fall Restraint Fences	 Gates & Bollards	 Playgrounds, Play Equipment & Outdoor Fitness Equipment
 Equestrian Corrals, Hitching Posts & Highlines	 Docks & Boat Launches	 Campsites	 Donation Boxes

Frequent cleaning and disinfection of amenities and infrastructure are important to preventing the further spread of COVID-19^{vi}. Trail operators should remember that the length of time that COVID-19 can live on surfaces is not fully known and is dependent, in part, on the surface materials and environmental factors (humidity, temperature).

3.1 TO CLOSE OR KEEP AMENITIES OPEN?

Though some government parks and outdoor recreation managers are beginning to open basic amenities for public use, they are being opened with enhanced procedures including:

- Increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols, and
- Installation of signage to warn that COVID-19 may be present and to promote hand hygiene.

It may not be possible for trail operators to ensure that trail amenities and infrastructure will be free from COVID-19 infected droplets. However, trail operators, if they choose to keep amenities open, should take reasonable steps to manage the risks for transmission and to inform visitors of the potential for COVID-19 to be present. In making that decision, trail operators should consider each of the following:

- Relevant provincial or territorial and local health authority orders, directives and guidelines,
- Local government bylaws and directives,
- Potential volume of visitation,
- Secondary impacts that may result from closing amenities (e.g. inappropriate disposal of human waste, littering, etc.)
- Number and type of frequently touched amenities and infrastructure,
- Capacity to apply increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols,
- Capacity to increase signage and education.

3.2 CLOSING AMENITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

For amenities and infrastructure that the trail operator determines should be closed to visitors, the trail operator should:

- Sign the amenity / infrastructure as closed,
- Lock or tape off the amenity, and
- Regularly monitor compliance, and replace damaged or removed signage or posters.