

## **NECA Safety**

## COVID-19 Guidelines on Social Distancing

## What is the Coronavirus?

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)-CoV-2 virus. The current mutation is a new strain of the SARS virus and no individual has any immunity prior to an exposure. The CDC has reported that testing has begun on a vaccine but for now, everyone should prepare and plan for possible impacts resulting from COVID-19. It has spread from China to many other countries around the world, including the United States.

With many construction sites remaining operational during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is extremely important to maintain compliance with all social distancing guidelines and requirements. The following recommendations are specific to construction projects that continue to be operational. While these are fairly comprehensive, they are not all-inclusive. The needs of each site can vary. State or other local requirements can be more restrictive, and would take precedent.

- Limit the jobsite to essential employees, and keep any visitors and vendors from being in close proximity to workers.
- Maintain a log of all employees on the jobsite.
- Allow only 1 person per aerial lift bucket, scaffold platform or other confined area to maintain appropriate space separation.
- Suspend or postpone work requiring 2 or more people in close proximity.
- Use full body PPE (health related in addition to other hazards identified in risk assessment) in situations where work involving 2 or more workers in close proximity must take place.
- Encourage workers to stay home if they show any signs of illness.
- Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces, common work area and tables, tools, desks, cell phones and any other item(s) that could be shared.
- Use approved cleaning chemicals and follow all label and SDS requirements and manufacturer's instructions

Below is a link to the CDC guidance on Social Distancing:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html

Below is the link to the CDC guidance on face coverings to be used in conjunction with social distancing:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html

