



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Pope/Douglas

Solid Waste Management

(Joint Powers)

SWANA – Guidance on Coronavirus

March 6, 2020



Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Many workplaces and communities are preparing for potential impacts related to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Though information about the virus is still evolving, recommendations for preventing its spread remain similar to what is already prescribed for influenza.

Control and Prevention for Solid Waste Management Workers and Employers

At this time, no special precautions to protect waste workers from COVID-19 are recommended when handling municipal solid waste. Continue to use those precautions already in place to protect workers from the hazards they encounter during their routine job tasks.

Medical waste suspected or known to be contaminated with COVID-19 should be handled like other regulated medical waste. (COVID-19 is not a Category A infectious substance.) Use approved engineering and administrative controls, safe work practices, and PPE to prevent worker exposure to medical waste, including sharps and other items that can cause injuries or exposures to infectious materials.

For additional information, consult the [regulated medical waste information](#) in CDC's [guidelines for environmental infection control in healthcare facilities](#).

Source: US OSHA, [osha.gov/SITC/covid-19/controlprevention.html#solidwaste](#) in healthcare facilities.

Recommended Strategies for Employers

COVID-19 is a recordable illness, per OSHA. And it is being called a recognized workplace hazard, which is important to know for your employee communications.

Employers and managers are urged to review the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\), February 2020](#). The following strategies are further explained in that guidance document:

- Actively encourage sick employees to stay home
- Separate sick employees
- Emphasize staying home when sick, using proper cough and sneeze etiquette, and proper hand hygiene (Refer to preventative guidance in this flyer)
- Perform routine environmental cleaning in your workplace. Wipe commonly used surfaces like telephones and handles with disinfectants.
- Advise employees before traveling to take certain steps
 - Check the CDC's Traveler's Health Notices for the latest guidance and recommendations.
 - Advise employees to check themselves for symptoms of acute respiratory illness before traveling.
 - If outside the US, sick employees should follow company policy for obtaining medical care or contact a healthcare provider.
- Additional measures in response to currently occurring sporadic importations of the COVID-19
 - Employees who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should notify their supervisor and refer to CDC guidance for [how to conduct a risk assessment](#) of their potential exposure.
 - If an employee is confirmed to have COVID-19, employers should inform fellow employees of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Employees exposed to a co-worker with confirmed COVID-19 should refer to CDC guidance for [how to conduct a risk assessment](#) of their potential exposure.

Occupational Health and Safety provides resources on flu and infectious disease outbreaks.

- Eyes
 - Nose
 - Mouth
- ## No Touch!!

Protect Nose/Mouth



Basic COVID-19 Information

How COVID-19 Spreads

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

Source, U.S. CDC, [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html](#)

Symptoms

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Source, U.S. CDC, [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html](#)

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe
- Follow CDC's recommendations that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Source: U.S. CDC, [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html](#)

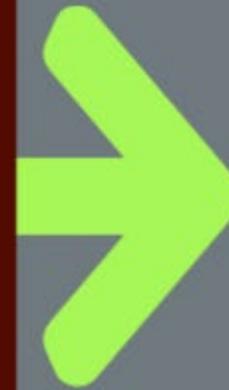
Coordination with [state](#), [provincial/territorial](#), and [local](#) health officials is strongly encouraged for all businesses so that timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses in each location where their operations reside. Since the intensity of an outbreak may differ according to geographic location, local health officials will be issuing guidance specific to their communities. For more information about the virus, please visit the [CDC](#), [OSHA](#), [OPHA](#), or [WHO](#).

KEEPING HANDS CLEAN THROUGH IMPROVED HAND HYGIENE IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS WE CAN TAKE TO AVOID GETTING SICK AND SPREADING GERMS TO OTHERS.

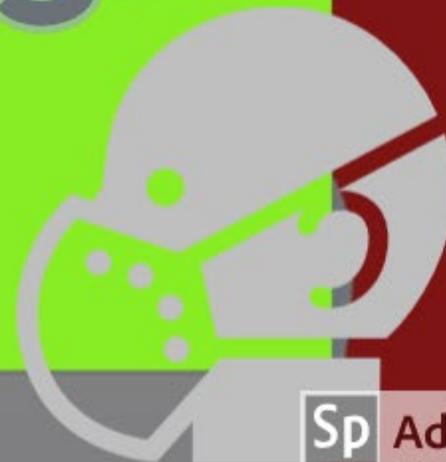




**MAINTAIN
DISTANCE**



**Face Coverings
Required**



Waste Deliveries: Tri-County

Covid-19 Restrictions and Protocol

Pope/Douglas is taking many precautions and limiting Scale Room contact with the drivers. We recognize that haulers are considered 'essential'.

We want to minimize employee exposures and sickness relating to Covid-19.

Scale Room Changes and Precautions:

1. We are limiting and closing our scale room and bathrooms to the general public until further notice.
2. For the drivers that have CB's in their trucks, extra communication with our Scale Room made using CB Channel 22.
3. If copies of the tickets are requested by the driver, we ask the driver to stay outside of the Scale Room and knock on the door if needed. After the driver has knocked, the driver will be asked to pull off the scale to be able to print the tickets on our scale room door for the least exposure to the Scale Room.
4. Haulers without issued scale cards will be asked to wait outside of the Scale Room for a period of time. They will be asked to wait outside of the Scale Room until they are able to enter. Drivers are responsible for providing a full view of the scale room door and copy out the scale card.
5. Verify and keep the scale room door closed.
6. Watch for visual directions from the scale room attendants regarding weighing in and directions on where to dump.

We understand and expect some type of collection upset conditions throughout this Covid-19 Virus. An example could be a big decrease in business/restaurant trash and an increase in residential trash.

We are trying to forecast and plan a few weeks ahead of time on trash deliveries. If you notice any large volume changes please reach out to the following:

Steve Vrchota- steve@popedouglasrecycle.com
And include; Tri-County Solid Waste

The more we are aware of any trash inventory fluctuations, the better we can plan for ensuring we have enough trash to make it through the weekend and plan accordingly.

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The more we are aware of any trash inventory fluctuations, the better we can plan for ensuring we have enough trash to make it through the weekend and plan accordingly.

Do not enter Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Campus if you are experiencing known symptoms of COVID-19 or other contagious illnesses.
Thank you for your cooperation.

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Processes Local MSW for Pope & Douglas

Long Term Delivery Agreements with Grant, Stevens, Stearns, Benton and Sherburne Counties

Drug Disposal

Special Burns

Confidential Burns



Materials Recovery Facility

- Front-end processing MRF – connected to WTE Facility
- Typically processes **85% of all incoming MSW** with remaining MSW sent directly to the WTE pit due to bulky, industrial or stringy loads that would significantly produce equipment jams and equipment wear and tear.
- Standard PPE – Garbage/Waste Sorters wear N95 respirators to protect from airborne hazards.
- Exposure to submicron powders (carbon, flour, powdered chemicals)
- Exposure to viruses, bacteria and mold
- Social Distancing not able to be achieved in sorting line setup
- 2 shifts – 6 people/shift = **12-15 N95 masks/day use**

MRF/WTE – Interim Work Arounds

- Reduced MRF shifts from 2 to 1 for **2 weeks** – when Gov Order 1st started
- Enabled some preservation of N95 masks, gloves, etc.
- Had directed all incoming MSW loads to tip in the WTE pit.
- WTE pit or staging area was not designed to handle the current volume of MSW.
- Combustor units are 'mass burn' and were designed without the use of a front-end MRF.
- However, MSW evolving ton has changed over the years. More plastics, more organics and LOTS of bulky scrap metal.
- WTE worker fatigue trying to keep up with bulky metals plugging up the ash hopper area
- Increased refractory wear and tear concerns from bulky metals scrapping along units.



MRF/WTE – Work Arounds

- Re-opened up MRF after **2 weeks**.
- People Ready (Employee Temp Service) – sent 40 N95 masks and are able to receive them in batches of 10 as they are exhausted. Mask use is being monitored to ensure proper use and less waste.
- Switched MRF staff to using more 3M half masks – use pancake and cartridge filters.
- Replacement filter access is slim to none.
- Rotating Current Supply of N95 and/or half masks is 6-8 weeks! - Even with all the 'cage rattling' to secure a handful of masks here and there.

MRF/WTE – Work Aroun

- To preserve N95 and half mask use, switched to fabric masks for general use in plants, breaks, bathroom use and being anywhere else on the solid waste campus.
- Using 10:1 bleach water spray bottles/laundered microfiber clothes for counter, break tables, bathroom, knobs, light switches.
- Use bleach water to also spray down all masks to help extend their life.
- Supplied draw string bags to plant staff to place masks into to allow them to dry overnight.
- Concerned about on-going N95/half mask access moving forward.
- May have to switch to additional fabric mask use – protecting from COVID contact exposure, but **minimal protection from other vectors in the MSW stream.**

Hauler Safety

- Space all 'curbside' carts at least 3-4 feet from one another
- All materials must be in the cart – not set next to cart
- Plastic Bag garbage
- Compostable Bag organics recycling
- Don't bag recycling



Household Hazardous Waste & Recycling Drop

Closed from 3/18-4/20

ENVIRONMENTAL DROP SITE OPENING AD



**Get in.
Drop off.
Get out.**

THANKS FOR HELPING TO PUT WASTE IN ITS PLACE!

#PUTWASTEINITSPLACE POPE/DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE

Hard to Find PPE/Cleaning Solutions

- Using Homemade Masks to reduce exposure – HHW/Recycling Drop Off
- Sanitizer options used – 1:10 Bleach and Water solution in spray bottles
- Was getting low on nitrile gloves and chemical resistant gloves – had to order thicker or reduce mil thickness gloves to make due





RECYCLING HUT
FOLLOW CONES

KEEP RIGI
Copyright
Carrington 4/10

POPEZ DOUGLAS
Put Waste in Its Place
ORGANICS RECYCLING & COMPOSTING
EVENTS RECYCLING
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
320.743.9340

FORM 2 LANES
LEFT LANE ONLY
RIGHT LANE ONLY

- RECYCLE BINS
- OIL FILTERS
- CARDBOARD
- PAINT BULBS
- CONFIDENTIAL BURNS
- ORGANICS DROP



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ↓

HAZARDOUS WASTE

NO SOLICITATION
VISITORS OR SALES
CALL 320-763-9340
FOR ASSISTANCE

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Household Hazardous Waste

Prohibited materials include:
Flammable, Corrosive, Oxidizing, or Compressed Gases
Highly Toxic and Acutely Toxic Liquids, Solids, Slurries, Pastes, and Powders
Poison and Highly Toxic Materials (HMT)

PLACE ONLY
4 ft and shorter
Bulbs HERE

PLACE ONLY
'CFL' and Small
Bulbs HERE

PLACE ONLY
Rechargeable
Or Button
Batteries HERE

PLACE ONLY
Containerized Sharps
HERE

PLACE ONLY
Confidential Papers
HERE







REC – Recycling Education Committee

- Make lemonade when handed lemons!
- Educate. Educate.

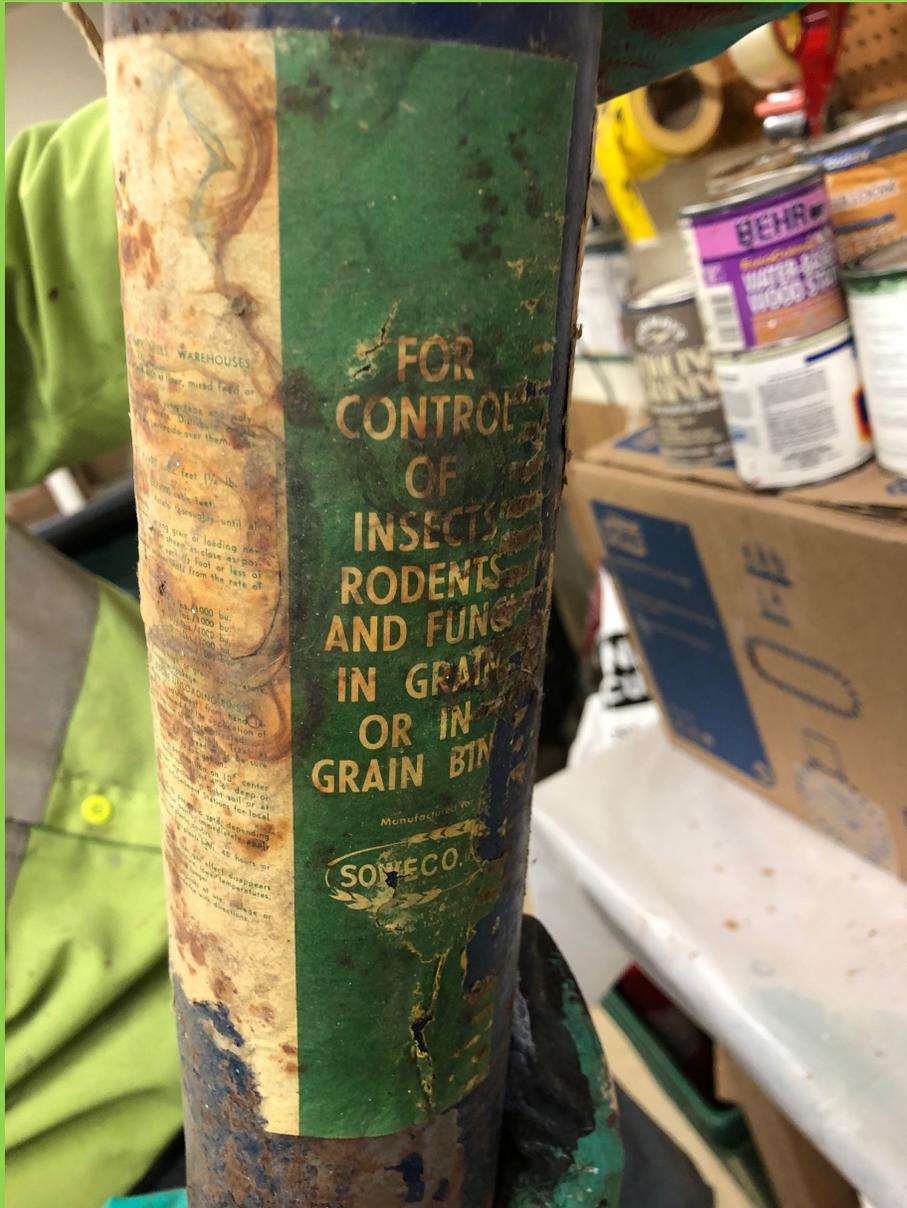
Recycle Better

YES! Plastics ♻️ ♻️ ♻️

Put plastic bottles and containers into your recycling cart







The Fun Find:

8 cylinders of Chloropicrin – Toxic Gas
Inhalation Hazard

They came delivered in a box (upright) with
young kids in the back of a Toyota Sienna.

I complimented her on bringing them in
and then went on to explain how
dangerous they could be.

She nervously laughed and thanked
Pope/Douglas for being able to properly
take care of them. 😊

I CANNOT CONTROL

(So, I can LET GO of these things.)

IF OTHERS FOLLOW THE RULES OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

THE AMOUNT OF TOILET PAPER AT THE STORE

ICAN CONTROL

(So, I will focus on these things.)

THE ACTIONS OF OTHERS

MY POSITIVE ATTITUDE

TURNING OFF THE NEWS

FINDING FUN THINGS TO DO AT HOME

HOW LONG THIS WILL LAST

HOW I FOLLOW CDC RECOMMENDATIONS

LIMITING MY SOCIAL MEDIA

MY OWN SOCIAL DISTANCING

MY KINDNESS & GRACE

PREDICTING WHAT WILL HAPPEN

OTHER PEOPLE'S MOTIVES

HOW OTHERS REACT



Clipart: Carrie Stephens Art
TheCounselingTeacher.com

ILLUSION OF 'CONTROL'

**QUESTIONS &
COMMENTS??**