

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Lead Services Section
COVID-19 Supplemental Guidance for Environmental Investigations
May 28, 2020**

Purpose

The purpose of this COVID-19 Supplemental Guidance for MDHHS staff is to establish personal protection and hygiene protocols for Environmental Investigators (EI) performing lead inspections to ensure the highest level of protection for both the worker and the client. This is a fluid document as information and recommendations are expected to change frequently. This guidance includes the best available information at the time of issuance and shall be updated as additional operations are allowed under future Executive Orders.

Prior to performing an inspection:

- EI must complete the COVID-19 virtual safety training at <https://hbaofmichigan.com/#/#covid-19-hba-information>.
- EI will not conduct inspection(s) if feeling ill or have symptoms of respiratory illness (i.e., sore throat, fever, coughing, shortness of breath).
- Obtain safety equipment, face mask, safety glasses, disposable gloves and booties.

Conducting a site visit or inspection(s):

When preparing or scheduling appointments for home-based visits/inspection(s), please use the following guidance to ensure staff and client safety:

- Unless child safety is a concern, visits should be pre-scheduled whenever possible.
- When scheduling a visit with the household, staff should complete and document the pre-visit occupant screening questionnaire
- If the pre-visit occupant screening questionnaire indicates no risk of COVID exposure, it is expected that staff complete the home visit/inspection(s) if client agrees.
 - Clients should be advised to cancel their visit if answers to any of the screening questions change between scheduling and the time the visit occurs.
 - If any household members indicate travel, contact, or symptoms as outlined above, the in-home visit/inspection(s) should be postponed/rescheduled.
- When possible, conduct communication via telephone/email.
 - In the case of a clearance, the EI will prep all testing materials ahead of time to the best of his or her ability.
 - EI must complete occupant questionnaire over the phone prior to visit.
- EI will wear a face mask, safety glasses, disposable gloves and booties at all times while performing inspection(s).
- EI will dispose of booties and gloves after use.
- EI will sanitize safety glasses and face mask between uses. (If mask is disposable, EI will dispose after each use.)
- EI will enter site and conduct site visit or inspection as quickly as possible.
- EI will clean surfaces if touched with a disinfecting wipe or spray (door handles, light switches, etc.), if gloves are not utilized.
- EI will maintain 'social distance' (6 feet) from individuals onsite.
- EI will wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer once site visit or inspection(s) is complete.
- If the EI feels in any way unsafe about entering any location, DO NOT ENTER. EI will document the issue and contact MDHHS to note the file.

Sample Submittal

- EI will wear a face mask, safety glasses, disposable gloves and booties when delivering samples to laboratory.
- EI will dispose of booties and gloves after use.
- EI will sanitize safety glasses and face mask between uses. (If mask is disposable, EI will dispose after each use.)
- EI will maintain 'social distance' (6 feet) from individuals at the lab while delivering samples.
- EI will wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer once samples are delivered.
- EI will follow any/all other safety measures the lab requires. It is always the responsibility of the EI to know the laboratory's safety protocol and to follow it accordingly.

Additional questions can be directed to the MDHHS Lead Services Section at 517-335-9390.