



# Cleaning and Disinfecting in Your Community Garden

Coronaviruses are one of the easiest types of viruses to kill with the appropriate cleaning and disinfecting practices in your community garden.

### The differences between cleaning and disinfecting products:

- **Cleaning products** remove germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces by using soap (or detergent) and water. Cleaning does not necessarily kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- **Disinfecting products** kill germs on surfaces using chemicals. Disinfecting products are most effective on clean surfaces.

**For more info visit:** [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/cleaning-disinfecting-public-spaces.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/cleaning-disinfecting-public-spaces.html)

### Safety Considerations:

- Always store and use cleaning and disinfectant products according to the product's label/manufacture's directions (e.g., wear gloves, use in well-ventilated area).
- Allow enough contact time for disinfectant to kill germs based on the product being used, and follow manufacturer's directions.
- Keep all cleaning and disinfectant products out of the reach of children. Never mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together as this can cause fumes that may be very dangerous to breathe in.
- Avoid contamination of food and food contact surfaces, do not spray on plants, or on the ground.



**If chemicals are ingested or get into eyes, contact a Poison Control Centre 1-800-268-9017 or call 911.**

**Step 1:** CLEAN the surface or object with soap and water to remove visible debris.

**Step 2:** DISINFECT using a Health Canada [approved hard-surface disinfectant](#) that has a Drug Identification Number (DIN). A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms the disinfectant product is approved and safe for use in Canada. This 8-digit number may present as a 'NPN' (natural product number) instead of a DIN on the product. After disinfecting taps, spouts or water outlets allow the water to run for a minute before using it.



# Renfrew County and District Health Unit

## FACT SHEET

### Cleaning and Disinfecting in Your Community Garden

#### Help Protect our Natural Environment

Chemicals in cleaning products and disinfectants, can harm the environment if they are not handled or disposed of properly.

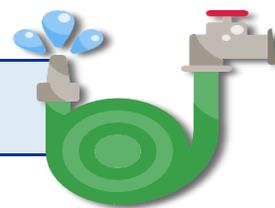
- Do not pour or spray disinfectants or bleach onto the ground or into a storm sewer.
- Dispose of all disinfectants and empty disinfectant containers as per manufacturers' directions.
- Use care when mixing bleach solution: use a stable surface to mix your bleach solution; placing the spray bottle in a bucket while adding bleach and water can minimize spills.
- The disinfectants mentioned below may be disposed of into a sink or toilet that connects to a municipal sewage treatment plant. Do not dispose of disinfectants into a sink or toilet that connects to a private sewage disposal system or septic tank.
- Dispose of disinfectant wipes into the garbage; do not flush disinfectant wipes down the toilet.
- Store disinfectants in a safe place only accessible to those who need to use them. Follow the manufacturer's directions on specific instructions relating to storage.

#### Types of Disinfectants that are Effective Against COVID-19

Health Canada has a list of approved disinfectants that are effective against the COVID-19 virus: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html>

Below is a short-list of disinfectants that are commonly available to the general public, and have been approved at this time by Health Canada. **The list is updated regularly, check back often for newly approved disinfectants.**

**When using disinfectants on hoses, spouts or other water outlets, allow the water to run for 1 minute before using it.**



#### 1. Wipes (Surface Disinfectants)

These types of disinfectants are ready-to-use and come as pre-moistened wipes.

##### **Safety Considerations**

Follow the manufacturer's directions for instructions on use, contact time, storage and disposal. Dispose of used wipes directly into the garbage.

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April 2021



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**Clorox Disinfecting Wipes**  
DIN: 02466031

## 2. Solution-based Disinfectants (Surface Disinfectants)

These types of disinfectants are typically liquid and may have to be diluted.

### Safety Considerations

Follow the manufacturer's directions for instructions on use, contact time, storage and disposal. If solutions require dilution, follow the manufacturer's directions. Wear gloves or other personal protective equipment while diluting the product. Dilute the product in a well-ventilated area. Store in clearly labelled containers.

### Household Bleach, 5.25% sodium hypochlorite solution

- Different brands, e.g., Clorox
- Bleach must be diluted before use: Add 4 tsp bleach per 1 cup water.
- Spray onto clean surface and let it evaporate, or wipe away after a minimum contact time of 45 seconds.
- Must be prepared daily and stored in a labelled spray bottle.



**Fantastik Original Disinfectant All Purpose Cleaner**  
DIN: 02491613

## 3. Sprays/Aerosols (Surface Disinfectants)

These types of disinfectants are typically ready-to-use and come as a spray or aerosol. Some of these products may come in different scents, check the DIN to ensure it is approved for use by Health Canada against the COVID-19 virus. The following list of examples is not exhaustive.

### Safety Considerations

Follow the manufacturer's directions for instructions on use, contact time, storage and disposal. Take care not to spray product into eyes. Do not store aerosol cans where they may become heated.



**Clorox Kitchen Cleaner and Disinfectant**  
DIN: 02419696



**Clorox Clean-Up Disinfectant Bleach Cleaner Spray**  
DIN: 02494000

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**Lysol Disinfectant Spray**  
DIN: 02279177



**Lysol Disinfectant Mist**  
DIN: 02469340



**Fantastik Original Disinfectant All Purpose Cleaner**  
DIN: 02491664

**NOTE: Disinfectants mentioned above are for surfaces and should not be used for hand hygiene.**

### Hand Sanitizers (for Hand Hygiene)

Hand sanitizers may be used to disinfect hands, but only if hands are visibly clean. If hands are dirty, wipe them off first with wipes such as moist paper towels or baby wipes.

When using a hand sanitizer, choose one that has an alcohol content of at least 70%.

Health Canada has a list of approved hand sanitizers that are effective against the COVID-19 virus: [www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/hand-sanitizer.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/hand-sanitizer.html). Health Canada approved hand sanitizers have a DIN or NPN on the product container.

Follow the manufacturer's directions for instructions on use, storage and disposal.

Store hand sanitizers in a safe place only accessible to those who need to use them. Follow the manufacturer's directions on specific instructions relating to storage.



For more information, or to speak with a Public Health Inspector, please call **Renfrew County and District Health Unit at 613-732-3629**.

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### Disinfectant Safety Information

Name of Disinfectant:
Drug Identification Number (DIN):
Instructions for Use:
Instructions for Storage:
Contact Time:
Instructions for Disposal of Disinfectant:
Instructions for Disposal of Disinfectant Container:
Instructions in Case of Medical Emergency (if disinfectant gets is swallowed, gets into eyes or onto skin):
<b>Poison Control Centre</b> 1-800-268-9017 or 911

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