

# PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS



## COVID-19 MITIGATION GUIDELINES FOR RETURNING TO THE FIELD

Surveyors are permitted to resume field work on May 1<sup>st</sup> per Governor Wolf's order issued April 23, 2020 which includes survey specific tasks as they relate to construction, land subdivision and design related field activities. To further support our members, we offer these guidelines as Surveyors resume field work to stay safe from and mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus while performing routine tasks on all project sites. This Plan is not intended to replace or modify the [CDC Guidelines](#), applicable [OSHA requirements](#), or orders of applicable governmental authorities.

**DAILY MEETINGS:** Conduct meetings daily prior to starting field work to discuss safety precautions to combat COVID-19 while on the job site. Consider working in 1- or 2-person crews and drive separately to the job site if feasible. The party chief will ask each crew member if they or anyone in their household have experienced any flu-like symptoms. Ensure hand sanitizer or anti-bacterial wipes and masks or face coverings are available to each crew member. Remind crews to maintain the 6' distancing between employees.

### INFECTION MITIGATION:

1. Maintain 6' distance between one another.
2. Wash hands frequently.
3. Apply hand sanitizer frequently.
4. Avoid touching your face.
5. Keep anti-bacterial wipes in the work vehicle.
6. Wipe down equipment (ex: GPS Units, Total Stations, Data Collectors, Touch Screens, Keypads, Levels, Poles, iPads, Laptops, Tape Measures, Other Miscellaneous Equipment, workstations).
7. Do not share cell phones, radios, tablets, or laptops.
8. Cover coughs and sneezes.
9. Do not share water coolers or water bottles.
10. Stay at home if you feel sick or have flu-like symptoms.

### VEHICLE MANAGEMENT:

1. Avoid having more than one person in a vehicle.
2. Ensure vehicle is equipped with anti-bacterial wipes.
3. Wipe down steering wheel, gear shift and controls.

### FIELD CREW PERSONNEL:

1. Wear protective masks or face coverings.
2. Wear long sleeves for extra protection against skin absorption.
3. All personnel must have their own Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) (ex: Hard Hats, Safety Glasses, Hi-Visibility Vests. No sharing!
4. Limit cross touching of equipment. One person handles instrument, data collector, or signs.

## **SAFETY PROTOCOLS IF COVID-19 IS DETECTED ON A FIELD PROJECT**

**We recommend maintaining a record of any incidences or events that are encountered or reported.**

If we know or have reason to know that an employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19:

- 1) Inform everyone on the project, without informing the project team of the name or the identity of the individual. Notify Human Resources of the situation.
- 2) If applicable, close the project field office for 14-days and deep clean the entire office and vehicles.
- 3) Do not allow that employee to return to the project site for 14 days.

If we know or have reason to know that an employee is in close contact with a COVID-19 patient (outside the project team):

- 1) Direct that employee to stay home based on potential exposure.
- 2) Inform everyone on the project that an employee had a potential exposure (do not disclose identity).
- 3) Strongly encourage the project field office to close and deep clean the office.
- 4) If the project team has implemented the precautionary guidelines listed in this document to perform their work, the remaining staff may return to the project site (assuming they are not exhibiting symptoms) and avoid any potential infected areas including vehicles, equipment, etc. until they are deep cleaned.

### **Best practices if an employee is exhibiting symptoms:**

- 1) Send the person home.
- 2) Encourage the person to seek medical treatment.
- 3) When they return to work, encourage a doctor's note confirming the general health of the individual.

Follow all applicable provisions of the [Order](#) of the Secretary of Health providing for business safety measures, issued April 15, 2020, including but not limited to provisions requiring that every person present at a work site wear masks/face coverings, and provisions requiring the establishment of protocols for execution upon discovery that the business has been exposed to a person who is a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19.

Follow all applicable provisions of the [Order](#) of the Secretary of Health providing for building safety measures, issued April 5, 2020.

