

MOSQUITO CONTROL DURING COVID-19

In nearly all jurisdictions, mosquito control is considered an essential public health service and therefore must maintain operational continuity under extreme social distancing guidelines or even shelter-in-place orders during COVID-19.

This situation is unprecedented, but most every mosquito control entity is facing similar staffing and operational challenges, and wondering how to maintain routine service levels with way less resources than usual.

Clarke wants to help, by connecting programs across the country and sharing the innovative ways we're seeing our customers react to COVID-19. We're all in this together. Starting now, and for as long as our industry needs it, we'll be sending out brief articles on ideas and tips for maintaining mosquito control services during COVID-19.

Here's the second one:

What outdoor disinfecting applications are effective?

We have seen the photos from around the world of outdoor fogging with disinfectants. But is worthwhile? With staffing resources at a premium, think twice about how to go about outdoor disinfecting.

Be Deliberate.



Prioritize WHERE you treat outdoors:

- » Highly trafficked public areas
- » High hand touch surfaces

In a study reviewed in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#), the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes Covid-19 only lasts in the air up to 3 hours. Thus ultra-low volume (ULV) 'fogging' would be very inefficient at reaching and controlling live virus. By comparison, the virus survives on hard surfaces such as stainless steel and plastic 2 to 3 days.

As noted in a recent [Science Magazine](#) article "[Does disinfecting surfaces really prevent the spread of coronavirus?](#)" people don't lick or touch sidewalks, steps and roads. So wide area treatments of open public spaces should take a second seat to high-touch surfaces such as railings, doors, benches, playground equipment, tables and chairs.



How is your program adjusting operations during COVID-19?

Share your ideas and feedback with your local Clarke representative.

Be Direct.

A gas-powered backpack applicator is an ideal means of treating these surfaces. Applicators such as the [Clarke Guardsman ULV Backpack Sprayer](#) provides true ULV droplets that efficiently and effectively apply disinfectants to targeted hard surfaces.

Click here for a list of [EPA listed disinfectants](#).



Your local Clarke representative can assist you with information about available ULV sprayers for outdoor disinfecting operations if this is something your program is considering.