

# SANITATION PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAYS

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## OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this document is to provide operating procedures and recommendations for the sanitation of public right-of-ways (e.g., sidewalks, streets, and gutters).

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Public notification must adhere to the respective City regulations prior to the cleanup, removal, and storage of personal property found on city streets and property.

## HAZARD ASSESSMENT

For the safety of everyone working in the area to be sanitized, it is recommended that a hazard assessment be conducted to identify any hazardous or otherwise unsafe items prior to conducting any sanitation activities. These items can include, but are not limited to hazardous chemicals, infectious waste (e.g., hypodermic needles/sharps), drug paraphernalia, firearms, live ammunition, explosives, or weapons. All employees or contractors should be properly trained prior to conducting a hazard assessment or any activities included in this sanitation procedure. Training should include, but is not limited to:

- 40 hour HazWoper training with current refresher training
- [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) (OSHA) Universal and Standard Precautions for Bloodborne pathogens and other Potentially Infectious Materials

Other training may be required for the safe handling of hazardous and biohazardous wastes

## SANITATION PROCEDURE

Disinfectants used must be registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Only EPA-registered disinfectant products approved for Hepatitis A are recommended for use. Application of the disinfectant must be in accordance with label specifications.

High concentration chlorine (sodium hypochlorite) solutions are effective and universally available products for the disinfection of a wide range of surfaces. For the purposes of sanitizing public right-of-ways, it is recommended, and consistent with the 2012 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation Operation Healthy Streets Protocol, that the following procedures be followed after conducting a hazard assessment:

1. While wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), prepare a 5,000 ppm solution of bleach and water (Solution A). Use 5.25% chlorine (household bleach) and mix a 1:10 dilution (1 part bleach, 9 parts water).
2. Use a chlorine test strip to ensure you have reached the desired concentration (5,000 ppm). There are several test strips that are commercially available.
3. Fill Hudson sprayers or similar distribution equipment.
4. Cover all storm drains to prevent run off.
5. Carefully spray all feces, blood, bodily fluids or contaminated surfaces with Solution A and wait for a minimum of 10 minutes.
6. After 10 or more minutes, carefully containerize feces or any other contaminated solid materials for disposal to landfill.

7. Respray any newly exposed surfaces with Solution A and wait for a minimum of 10 minutes.
8. Pressure-wash the sidewalks, streets, gutters, and inlet of storm drain catch basins with water.
9. Recover the generated waste water with a Vactor Truck for disposal to the sanitary sewer.
10. Mix 1 part of Solution A with 9 parts water to make Solution B (500 ppm) for final disinfection.
11. Use a chlorine test strip to ensure you have reached the desired concentration (500 ppm).
12. Carefully spray all washed areas with Solution B and wait for a minimum of 30 minutes to allow for adequate disinfection and degradation of residual chlorine.
13. Use a test strip on treated surfaces to determine the chlorine has adequately degraded prior to reoccupation.

It is important to note that higher concentrations and elevated temperatures can cause chlorine to degrade quickly over time. It is recommended that a fresh solution be made each day to ensure the most effective solution is used.

## RECOMMENDED FREQUENCY

In concentrated areas of homeless and drug using individuals, after the complete sanitation process (above), weekly spot maintenance should occur with additional rounds of the complete sanitation process at least every two weeks.

## REFERENCES

1. City of Los Angeles. *Operation Healthy Streets Protocol*. 2012.
2. U.S. Occupational Safety & health Administration. *Healthcare Wide Hazards*. 2017. Retrieved from: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/hospital/hazards/univprec/univ.html>
3. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. *Chemical Disinfectants - Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities*. 2008. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/disinfection-methods/chemical.html>
4. U.S. Army Public Health Command. *Preparing and Measuring High Chlorine Concentration Solution for Disinfection*. 2014. Retrieved from: [https://phc.amedd.army.mil/PHC%20Resource%20Library/TIP\\_No\\_13-034-1114\\_Prepare\\_Measure\\_High\\_Chlorine\\_Solutions.pdf](https://phc.amedd.army.mil/PHC%20Resource%20Library/TIP_No_13-034-1114_Prepare_Measure_High_Chlorine_Solutions.pdf)

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