

Food Establishment

Clean-up Guidelines for Vomit/Fecal Accidents

Vomiting and diarrheal accidents should be cleaned up using the following recommended steps:

- Segregate the area.
- Wear disposable gloves during cleaning. To help prevent the spread of disease, it is recommended that a disposable mask and/or cover gown (apron) be worn when cleaning liquid matter.
- Wipe up the matter with towels and dispose into a plastic garbage bag.
- Use the recommended U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered disinfectants effective against *Norovirus* (Norwalk-like virus) following label directions or mix a chlorine bleach solution that is stronger than the chlorine solution used for general cleaning [the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 1000-5000 ppm or 5-25 tablespoons of household bleach (5.25%) per gallon of water]. Note: quaternary ammonia is not an effective sanitizer for *Norovirus*.
- Apply the bleach solution and allow it to remain wet in the affected area for at least 10 minutes. Allow to air dry. Dispose of any remaining sanitizer solution once the accident has been cleaned up.
- Discard gloves, mask, and cover gown (or apron) in a plastic bag.
- Take measures to dispose of and/or clean and disinfect the tools and equipment used to clean up vomit and fecal matter.
- Properly wash hands.
- Discard any food that may have been exposed.
- Food contact surfaces that have been disinfected must be washed, rinsed, and sanitized prior to use.
- Minimize the risk of disease transmission through the prompt removal of ill employees, customers and others from areas of food preparation, service, and storage.
- Restrict employees that have symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea. When a food employee has been diagnosed, has recent history or exposure to, or is the suspected source of a confirmed disease outbreak of *Norovirus*, it must be reported to the person in charge. If a food employee has been diagnosed with *Norovirus* it must also be reported to Clermont County Public Health.

If you need further guidance call Clermont County Public Health at (513) 732-7499.