

COVID-19 Sharing Plant, Tools & Equipment

Health & Safety – Fact Sheet

Purpose

This document should be used as the minimum guidance to apply during the COVID-19 pandemic when operating plant and other equipment. While DRNSW agencies may develop their own specific processes, these processes should meet the minimum requirements as set out in this fact sheet. All work activities that involve plant or equipment use should be assessed by the line manager before commencing. All workers must practice social distancing and good personal hygiene practices to minimise COVID19 risk.

Work Planning

- Where practical, field and site-based work and travel should be minimised, particularly in communities and zones deemed high risk due to high numbers / clusters of COVID-19 cases refer to heat maps on [NSW Government COVID-19](#). Where practical avoid travel between high and low risk zones.
- Where practical workers should have at least 4m² per person. Where this is not practical work in separate teams and avoid swapping staff between the teams.
- All workers falling into the COVID-19 High Risk category as deemed by NSW Health (e.g. vulnerable person category) should consult with their line manager and not be placed in work situations or environments that put them in close contact with other workers or members of the public.
- Brief and consult with all workers via a pre-start meeting, distribution of this protocol, updated Job Safety Analysis (JSA), Work Instructions, or other similar method to ensure that workers are appropriately informed of how to manage risks and current requirements.

Tools, Equipment and Plant hygiene

- Where practical do not share work equipment (e.g. tools, fixed plant, office/IT equipment).
- When equipment must be shared, apply cleaning protocols that focus on sanitising high touch areas both before and after use, including but not limited to:
 - Communal keys
 - Door and equipment storage handles
 - Light switches
 - Equipment switches, levers, buttons, and handles
 - Power points and lead ends
- It is the responsibility of the current plant operator/driver of the vehicle to sanitise the high touch point on the plant and equipment.
- PPE is not to be shared among workers and if there are insufficient supplies of PPE or sanitising products available, the work should not proceed until this is rectified.
- For cleaning tips refer to Factsheet on General Cleaning tips.

If you do not believe you can meet the minimum standards outlined in this document, please raise with your DRNSW site contact to discuss a resolution.
