

GUIDANCE ABOUT COVID-19

Helpful Tips and Information for Onsite System Professionals

IS COVID-19 FOUND IN SEWAGE?

COVID-19 concentrations and survival in feces, sewage or water are currently unknown. However, other Coronaviruses can survive for some time in settled sewage.



TREATMENT OF COVID-19 IN SEWAGE



Coronavirus concentrations in general are susceptible to the same disinfection conditions (e.g. oxidation with hypochlorite and peracetic acid, ultraviolet irradiation) as other viruses.

TAKING PROPER PRECAUTIONS

Use physical barriers to prevent exposure to splashes or sprays of waste water

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE): goggles, liquid repellent coveralls and gloves, face mask or face shield

Be trained on how to properly put on, use, wear, take off, clean/disinfect, maintain, store, and dispose of PPEs

Wash hands with soap and water immediately after handling waste or sewage before eating or drinking, and before and after using the toilet

Avoid touching face, mouth, eyes, nose, and open sores and cuts while handling sewage

Remove work clothes before eating, and eat in designated areas

Do not chew tobacco or gum

Cover open sores, cuts, and wounds with clean dry bandages

Remove work clothes before leaving worksite