



Monthly Safety Awareness

Social Distancing

Likely, the Coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease it causes is foremost on our minds. All of us have a responsibility in slowing its spread to prevent the next infection, to prevent the next illness, to save lives. To do so, in concert with our global neighbors, McKinstry has enacted steps with the ultimate aim of preventing harm to our people, our families, and our communities. The details of which can be found in their entirety on the [COVID-19 Resource site](#).

With many parts of the country, even the world, currently under a Stay-At-Home order, we've been challenged with [finding new ways to remain safe yet productive](#)—to remain able to support those we hold dear. Across the enterprise we have been finding new ways to remain engaged in our work, to discover creative ways to safely partner with our coworkers and industry peers while remaining effective at supporting the efforts of our Field employees in their work.

On our job sites, our Field labor does not have the ability to work remotely. *Skyping-in* does not facilitate servicing critical systems, hanging pipe, or any other essential work our people do daily. They remain on the frontlines supporting critical infrastructure. However, for those employees who continue to work on sites in these difficult times, McKinstry is fully dedicated to ensuring you a safe and healthful workplace. Steps we have taken so far are:

- 1.) **We are Social/Physical Distancing:** This practice, advocated by both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO), requires us to remain six feet or greater from others on the site. The intent is to prevent the spread of the disease-causing virus through droplets expelled during coughing or sneezing. By remaining six feet or more away from others who may be sick, we lessen the potential to spread this coronavirus to others and work to slow its spread. If we find ourselves unable to maintain this social distance, then we are not doing that work without other effective controls being taken. Period.
- 2.) **We are Practicing Personal Hygiene:** We've all heard we need to wash our hands more often, stay home when we are sick, and avoid touching our faces. Additional steps of routinely cleaning our work areas, our tools, our phones and other potential contaminated surfaces increases our odds of winning this fight and stopping the spread of COVID-19. We are committed to doing this to ensure we do not become sick ourselves or carry it home to our loved ones, some of whom may be at a higher risk of severe complications if infected.

3.) **We are intolerant of those who would place us at risk:** Many, if not all, of our industry partners are standing up policies and procedures to protect their people from infection. We will continue to follow our policies or those more restrictive. If we identify conditions or acts occurring that put our people at risk, we equal parts empower and require our teams to bring the full weight of McKinstry's Safety pillars (*Wait-A-Second, Ask for Help, Safe Work Innovation, and Active Caring*) to bear. We will work with our partners to ensure the health and safety of our people, and if they are unable or unwilling—we are, and we will.

The [Safety COVID-19 Resources](#) are located on our Bluenet Safety page. This location contains the Social Distancing policy and questionnaire documents as well as other useful tools, templates and forms for project teams to use in developing COVID-19 Safety and Security plan for their projects.

All of us are living through interesting times, challenging and shaping us as a society. We're in this together as coworkers, friends, and neighbors. We will get through this together by remaining united if only temporarily separated by six feet.

Security in Challenging Times

One of the challenges we're seeing across the enterprise is an uptick in theft from our job sites and our work vehicles. While property loss is frustrating under normal conditions (to say the least), given the concerns around COVID-19 unauthorized access to our job sites, vehicles, tools, and equipment introduce another potential vector to spread the coronavirus. Obviously, the protection of valuable materials and tools ensures we capable of executing the work at hand. Perhaps more importantly though, doing so ensures we prevent others from potentially contaminating such things.

Steps we can take are to continue best practices with locking up our sites daily, ensuring tools and materials are properly secured. With regards to our vehicles, parking in well-lit areas or secure locations and removing any valuables from plain view go a long way in preventing both theft and an unknown entity from possibly spreading disease.

To ensure we're limiting this risk, it is encouraged to work with your teams, the GCs, and owners to ensure all appropriate steps are being taken to secure tools and materials in addition to our sites.

The Monthly Safety Awareness (MSA) is distributed to all McKinstry email addresses. Please use the MSA for your next toolbox talk or safety moment. For more information or questions about safety, contact your [safety professional](#).

