



Secondary to COVID-19, companies have been asked by the State of Minnesota and CDC to address building, employee and client safety. While guidance was provided, certain challenges are more daunting than others. Facility and property managers (FMs and PMs) are tasked with providing sustainably clean, healthy and safe buildings and are in a scramble to find the needed protocols, supplies and equipment. Some FMs and PMs turned to their janitorial and HVAC supply vendors while others also included their landscape service vendors for an assist in the process. Does that surprise you? Traditional landscape providers offer maintenance services such as mowing, weeding, irrigation services and snow plowing, but a select few offer property cleaning services, which are commonly referred to as “portering”.

Commercial portering offered by landscape companies is considered an essential service in terms of exterior safety and sanitation; services include the removal and disposal of improperly discarded trash, gum, tobacco product, and broken glass, along with waste receptacle management, power washing, lot sweeping and striping, re-lamping parking and walkway areas, and maintaining public courtyards. Unique in this pandemic time, FMs and PMs have been quick to realize how many surfaces WE ALL NEED to touch in order to normally go about our business, and so, facility cleaning and disinfection has taken on a sobering responsibility. In response, Prescription Landscape added environmentally safe cleaning and disinfection products and services to its portering service. Our mobile work crews are now equipped with a combination of dry steam cleaning, a powerful disinfectant and electrostatic liquid-spraying gear, in order to offer businesses and other organizations a safer and eco-friendly means of cleaning and disinfecting vulnerable high-touch surfaces. Since we produce our own disinfectant on-site, we have also been able to fill the gap in the disinfectant supply chain.



Get Back to Work...*Cont'd*

The one-two punch of steam and electrolyzed water is deployed in minutes and is 99% effective against bacteria, fungus and virus, including COVID-19. The system is very useful for congregant areas, vehicle interiors and commonly used high-touch surfaces. Many fire departments and municipalities turned to it early in the pandemic because the process uses minimal liquid, thereby reducing liquid residue; this means that surfaces dry in minutes and, very importantly, it does not need to be wiped off. These qualities also make this system perfect for passenger drop-off and pick-up areas, and similar public spaces. Lastly, the electrostatic sprayers used in the process reduce service time ensuring an affordable solution that keeps work areas safe for staff.

In conclusion, FMs and PMs have been forced to the front line in terms of pandemic response plans, incident reporting, cleaning/disinfection supply management, and so much more. Heading into cold and flu season in Minnesota, we are acutely aware of building and equipment sanitation since the symptoms of these viruses can easily be mistaken for those of COVID-19. The need to foster cooperation between environmental, health, safety and vendor staff has never been more urgent.

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