Advice from Durham Region Health Department for Residential Apartment and Condominium Buildings*  

Be aware of the most current, credible public health information/recommendations.

Stay home and avoid any common areas when possible if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in close contact with anyone who has a respiratory illness.

Maintain physical distancing – keep 2 metres away from others outside your household/social circle. Do not gather in groups in common areas.

The use of non-medical masks/face coverings are mandatory in common areas of residential apartment and condominium buildings (e.g. elevators, lobbies, laundry rooms, recreational rooms, work out facilities, parking garages, etc.). A face shield is not a substitute for a mask.

Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer when handwashing is not possible and hands are not visibly soiled.

Practice proper respiratory etiquette (e.g. cough or sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue and not your hands) followed by appropriate hand hygiene.

Limit social gatherings within individual units, including any party rooms within the building, and adhere to the limits set out by the Province.

High-risk residents should avoid any non-essential trips into the community.

Residential apartment and condominium buildings property owners

A policy must be in place for those entering enclosed public spaces with an exemption from wearing a non-medical mask or face covering. Consider only allowing others to enter the space if they wear a non-medical mask or face covering.

Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces/equipment (e.g. door handles/knobs, buttons and panels, laundry machines, etc.), high traffic and common areas frequently. Recommend cleaning and disinfecting twice per day at a minimum and when visibly dirty. Use only disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN) given and approved by Health Canada and follow the manufacturer’s direction. Maintain cleaning and disinfecting logs.

Provide/install physical barriers and signage reminders (e.g. one-way directional markings/flow, posting signs in high traffic areas, physical distancing, etc.).

Limit the number of residents/public in common areas to maintain physical distancing (e.g. elevators, lobbies, laundry rooms, recreational rooms, work out facilities, etc.). The number of persons permitted in the common areas should be communicated and posted at the entrances and inside the area.

Any communally shared/distributed materials/objects (e.g. magazines, books, etc.) should be removed.

Private social/event gatherings are restricted to the gathering limits within the different public health measure zones set out by the Province.

Laundry facility area precautions:

- Wash hands before and after handling dirty laundry and using laundry facilities.
- Wipe down the machine controls and laundry hamper with disinfectant before and after use.
- Avoid leaving dirty laundry or baskets on top of the machines. Don’t fold clean items in the common area.

---

*Pursuant to the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020 and its applicable Regulations, individuals who do not comply with the above noted requirements may be liable for a fine up to a maximum of $100,000 or in the case of a corporation, not more than $10,000,000 for each day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues.

Jan 2021