



We make people and buildings cleaner, healthier and safer
in every place we touch!

MAINTENANCEMINUTE

Reduce Spread of Flu by 90%

Flu season runs from October through May, with the peak typically experienced in February.

During this time preventive measures, such as proper cleaning and hand washing, can benefit facilities and its occupants as studies show **some viruses can survive on surfaces for up to 24 hours, or even weeks!**



According to the CDC, **most human influenza viruses can survive on surfaces between 2 and 8 hours. However, some viruses, such as norovirus, has been proven to live on surfaces for days and even weeks.** Norovirus is of particular concern, as it can spread very quickly throughout a building and contributes to about 60,000 hospitalizations each year.

Other microorganisms, such as **MRSA can survive for days or weeks on surfaces**, depending on the environmental factors.

Flu germs surviving on surfaces can quickly spread throughout a building. In a study conducted by Dr. Charles Gerba, a microbiologist at the University of Arizona, it was discovered that a **"racer" virus planted on a single doorknob in an office building quickly spread and ended up on 50% of the occupants' hands and office surfaces.**

The good news: Gerba's study found that **proper cleaning can reduce occupants' exposure to contagious viruses by 80% to 90%.** (see our suggested flu-fighting products below).

Be sure to **clean and disinfect surfaces with EPA-registered products** designed to address the viruses you are most concerned with and use them according to manufacturer's directions.

The **use of microfiber boosts cleaning efficiency of microbials.** [In one study, the microfiber system tested demonstrated superior microbial removal compared with conventional string mops when used with a detergent cleaner \(94% vs 68%\).](#)

Pay particular attention to high touch surfaces (such as elevator buttons, light switches, door knobs/panels, water fountains, and phones) and disinfect them daily. Consider providing disinfecting wipes to employees for disinfecting their keyboards and computer mice. Many contractors won't clean these items as employees may keep their computers on during the night.

Perhaps the best personal defense against illness is **frequent and proper hand washing.**

We carry a variety of hand soap and hand sanitizing products and recommend the use of foam soap vs. liquid.

Here are a few of our best "flu fighting" products:



Hand Sanitizers



Bright n Fresh TB Disinfectant
(effective on Norovirus & MRSA)



Diversey Oxivir Five Concentrate
(effective on Norovirus & MRSA)



Microfiber Cloths



Dispatch Disinfectant Wipes
(effective on Norovirus)



Foaming Hand Soaps

Call us today at **800.933.4824** for more guidance on keeping your facility and its occupants healthy during flu season.

