



## Horse Care Info Sheet

# Hand Hygiene Checklist

- Make it easy for people to do the “right” thing
- A sink with running water and soap dispenser is optimal
- Place multiple alcohol based hand sanitizers in larger barns, for easy access throughout the facility
- Always handle the healthy horse(s) before the sick one(s)
- Sanitize your hands before and after each interaction with an “isolated” horse or any of their equipment, food, medicine and other items (isolated = sick, new or travelling)
- Sanitize your hands when working with foals, before and after
- Other activities that require hand hygiene procedure before and after are; administration of medication, dewormers and feeding of grain and hay

### Soap and Water Wash—Application time 40-60 seconds

- Use liquid soap (best option)
- Wet hands with water and apply enough product to cover all areas (Sing Happy Birthday Twice!)
- Rinse hands with water and dry thoroughly with a single-use towel (best option – prevents re-contamination)
- If bar soap is used, use small bars of soap in racks that allow the bars to dry in between use



### Alcohol Based Hand Sanitizer (min. 61% alcohol) - Application time: 20-30 seconds

- First remove organic material – use a towel or hand wipe
- Apply a quarter sized amount of alcohol-based hand-rub into your palm, dip your finger tips in the sanitizer and then rub the sanitizer over all surfaces of your hands
- Let dry, avoid open sparks while alcohol gel is drying

*Equine Guelph would like to extend thanks to Dr. Josie Traub-Dargatz and Dr. Alanna Kirby, Colorado State University for input and content review of this infosheet.*

**To learn more about equine biosecurity, register for Equine Guelph’s online course [Sickness Prevention in Horses](#), and visit the [biosecurity risk calculator](#) online tool.**