

## APHIS Authorized Disinfectants For Use When Handling APHIS Regulated Garbage

Entities wishing to handle garbage regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) must be approved to do so and have a compliance agreement. Approval granted by APHIS to handle APHIS regulated garbage does not reduce or eliminate any entity of their legal duty and responsibility to comply with all other applicable Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements. By signing a compliance agreement with APHIS or U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the signatory certifies that his/her establishment has met or will meet the requirements of all applicable environmental protection laws prior to handling garbage regulated by APHIS under the authority of USDA.

Due to a recent change in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) exemption for APHIS, persons wishing to use sodium hypochlorite (bleach) for cleaning and disinfection procedures associated with the handling of APHIS regulated garbage **must** use the product Clorox® Bleach (sodium hypochlorite 5.25%), EPA Reg. No. 5813-1. This product is labeled for use as a disinfectant. Additional sodium hypochlorite solutions will be added to the list as soon as they are authorized for use.

APHIS-authorized disinfectants for use when handling APHIS regulated Garbage:

- a) **Virkon®S** (EPA Reg. No. 71654-6) must be mixed according to the label for a 1% solution. Once mixed, Virkon® S may only be used for seven (7) days from the date of mixing. The name “Virkon-S” and the date the solution was mixed must be written on the container holding the solution.
- b) **Clorox® Bleach (sodium hypochlorite) 5.25%** (EPA Reg. No. 5813-1) commercially labeled for use as a disinfectant.
  - Use as a solution with a concentration of 5000 ppm available chlorine.
  - **Mix** 13 ounces Clorox® Bleach 5.25% bleach to 1 gallon of water **or** 1 part Clorox® Bleach 5.25% to 9 parts water
  - This solution will disinfect hard non-porous surfaces and can be used to decontaminate porous surfaces and materials.
  - The Clorox® Bleach 5.25% bleach (original bottle) may only be used for a maximum of two months. Write the date of purchase on the original bottle. Bleach is best stored out of heat and sun.
  - When bleach is diluted, it may only be used for a 24-hour period post dilution. The words “Bleach Solution”, the date and time of dilution must be written on the container holding the diluted bleach.

### Cleaning and Disinfection

The dock area and the area around grinders, sterilizers, incinerators, compactors, and/or dumpsters must be kept clean and free of loose garbage at all times.

All wooden surfaces in garbage handling areas (including storage areas and inside transport vehicles) must be treated so that surfaces are impervious to water and can be cleaned and disinfected.

## A. Articles Requiring Cleaning and Disinfection

Any article, means of conveyance, or other surface contaminated with regulated garbage, must be cleaned and disinfected with one of the APHIS authorized disinfectants to meet regulatory requirements before the items are reused.

Cleaning of portable articles must be performed over a drain leading to an approved sewage system or directly into a containment tank for proper disposal.

## B. Materials and Equipment

The following items must be immediately available for cleaning and disinfection in all work areas and on each conveyance during the handling of regulated garbage:

1. One of the APHIS-authorized disinfectants
2. A sanitizer approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use on and around food contact surfaces (as applicable)
3. A source of clean water adequate to achieve proper cleaning and disinfection.
4. A detergent
5. A scrub brush
6. Equipment to pick up solid material (such as a shovel or broom and dustpan).
7. Materials to contain and or absorb liquids
8. 3 mil plastic leak-proof bags to hold collected materials (uniquely identified)
9. Copy of all applicable Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and disinfectant labels, if the original containers are not available
10. Appropriate personal protective equipment (such as rubber or latex gloves and safety goggles) and/or other equipment as required by the MSDS, disinfectant labels and the establishment

## C. Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures

### 1. Non Food Handling Areas:

- Prior to applying detergent or disinfectant, regulated garbage (liquid and solid) must be removed from contaminated surfaces. Apply an absorbent material if needed. All collected regulated garbage and materials used in cleaning and disinfection must be disposed of as regulated garbage.
- Clean/scrub the affected area with detergent.
- Flush the affected area with clean water.
- Apply the disinfectant solution per label instructions; wet the entire affected area. Read disinfectant label to determine how long the disinfectant should remain on the surfaces. [Note: Mixed bleach solution (5000 ppm available chlorine) must remain on surfaces for 10 minutes.]
- Flush area with clean water and air dry per disinfectant label.

## 2. Food Handling Areas:

Use only sanitizers approved by EPA for use in food handling areas. Ensure the sanitizer is allowed by the location where it is being used.

- Prior to applying sanitizer, all regulated garbage (liquid and solid) must be removed from contaminated surfaces. Apply an absorbent material if needed. All collected regulated garbage and materials used in cleaning and sanitizing must be disposed of as regulated garbage.
- Follow the instructions on sanitizer label.

## D. Record Keeping

The establishment must maintain records of disinfectant and sanitizer used in association with the handling of regulated garbage. This includes disinfectant used for both routine cleaning and disinfection and spills. Records must include at a minimum:

- Date of disinfectant or sanitizer use.
- Specific location of disinfectant or sanitizer use.
- Volume and concentration of disinfectant or sanitizer used.
- Date and time of notification of spills to CBP (or APHIS as applicable)
- Name of employee notifying CBP (or APHIS as applicable)

These records must be kept for three (3) years from the date of disinfectant or sanitizer usage.