

News Releases

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EPA Takes Action to Assure Availability of Disinfectant Products for Use Against the Novel Coronavirus

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WASHINGTON — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking further action to help ease the production and availability of EPA-registered disinfectants. EPA will temporarily allow manufacturers of certain already-registered EPA disinfectants to obtain certain active ingredients from any source of suppliers without checking with the agency first. This only applies to products on [EPA's List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#). This action comes after last week's announcement of [EPA's similar action on certain inert ingredients](#).

"It is critical that the supply of EPA-registered disinfectants keep up with the demand for these products," **said Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.** "By taking this action, EPA is better protecting public health by assuring the availability of surface disinfectants to use against the novel coronavirus."

"We appreciate EPA's continued partnership as we all work together to keep the supply chains for cleaning products running efficiently, particularly for the disinfectants that hospitals, manufacturers and consumers need to protect against the spread of coronavirus," **said Bryan Zumwalt, Executive Vice President for Public Affairs, Consumer Brands Association.**

"We commend the EPA for acting quickly to remove regulatory barriers during these unprecedented times," **said Steve Caldeira, President & CEO of the Household & Commercial Products Association.** "The EPA's continued engagement with disinfectant manufacturers has been critically important as we all work together to protect the public health."

EPA usually requires disinfectant manufacturers to first apply for and receive EPA approval prior to making a change in the source of the active ingredient. Under this amendment, manufacturers can source certain active ingredients from alternative suppliers, inform EPA, and immediately start production, provided that the resulting formulation is chemically similar to the current formulation. This will help alleviate reports of supply chain disruptions by pesticide registrants who manufacture disinfectant products on [EPA's List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#).

EPA will assess the continued need for and scope of this temporary amendment on a regular basis and will update it if EPA determines modifications are necessary.

The eligible active ingredients are:

- Citric Acid
- Ethanol
- Glycolic Acid
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Hypochlorous Acid
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- L-Lactic Acid
- Sodium Hypochlorite

Pesticides, including disinfectants, contain both active and inactive (or inert) ingredients. [Active ingredients](#) prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate a pest, in this case SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. All other ingredients are called [inert ingredients](#) by federal law. They are important for product performance and usability.

Read the temporary amendment at: www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/prn-98-10-notifications-non-notifications-and-minor-formulation-amendments

For EPA information on COVID-19: www.epa.gov/coronavirus

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