

## Safety Guidelines for reopening Barber Shops in New Brunswick

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Brunswick Registered Barbers Association (NBRBA) recommends reopening barber shops with the following strict guidelines in order to protect the safety of clients and employees. The recommendations should be used in conjunction with the regulation for barber shop (**2015-09-003 Barber Shop Rules**) that are currently in place. Keep in mind that these guidelines will be in effect during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic and may be adjusted as necessary, and they will be reduced when safe to do so. Upon inspection, if any salon or shop is found in violation of these guidelines, they may be closed immediately by public health officials or the board.

**EVERY BARBER SHOP & SCHOOL WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE ON-SITE AND READILY AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE ASSOCIATION, PUBLIC HEALTH AND/OR PUBLIC SAFETY A COPY OF THIS PLAN OR YOUR OWN COVID-19 PLAN THAT CONFORMS TO THESE GUIDELINES.**

- **It will be MANDATORY to have a log of customers and employee's daily, a sample is attached for your convenience. (The sample maybe copied for your use) THIS LOG MUST BE RETAINED UNTIL ADVISED OTHERWISE**
- **Ask** each client entering the shop the following questions:
  - Have you had a cough?
  - Have you had a fever,
  - Have you been around anyone exhibiting these symptoms within the past 14 days?
  - Are you living with anyone who is sick or quarantined?
  - **If the answer is YES to any of the above, you SHALL NOT allow the person into your shop.**
- **Limit people in the shop** – Shops should consider seeing clients by appointment only. Shops should consider telephonic or online scheduling. Limit the number of persons waiting area in the shop. It is recommended that clients wait outside the shop in their vehicle until the barber is ready to serve them. It is recommended that persons not being serviced in the shop wait outside the shop. Shops are not be used for social gathering places!
- **Maintain social distancing at all times!** Spacing between persons in the shop should be at least six feet, except when staff are servicing clients. Shops should consider additional spacing between booths, and/or alternate work schedules to accomplish this.
- **Personal Protective Gear-**
  - **Wearing masks** – Shop employees will be required to wear masks at all times. Shops may want to consider providing masks to clients. Clients should wear face masks to the extent possible while receiving services. ***(A face shield may be used in lieu of a mask for employee's)***
  - **Gloves** – It is **recommended BUT NOT MANDATORY** that employees wear disposable gloves when servicing clients and change gloves between each client to the greatest extent possible.

- **Capes** - Each client **should BUT NOT MANDATORY** be draped with a clean cape. Capes should be laundered following the fabric recommendations at the end of each day, or a new cape used daily, or shops may consider using disposable capes and dispose of the cape after it is used.
- **Smocks** -Employees **should BUT NOT MANDATORY** wear a clean smock between each client. Smocks should be laundered following the fabric recommendations at the end of each day, or a clean smock each day, or shops may consider using disposable smocks and dispose of the smock after use on a client.
- **Neck strips** – Employees shall use protective neck strips around the neck of each hair-cut client.
- **Hand-washing** with soapy, warm water, for a minimum of 20 seconds will be required by employees between every client service.
- **Employee clothing** – Employees should arrive at the shop showered and wearing clean clothing. Employees should change clothes before entering their homes when they return from work.
- **PPG**, such as gloves, gowns, drapes, linens and eye coverings should be changed between each client. These used items should be cleaned and disinfected or discarded in a closed container.
- **Disinfection** –
  - All shops shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to reopening. Disinfect all surfaces, tools, and linens, even if they were cleaned before the shop was closed.
  - Use disinfectants that are EPA –registered and labeled as bactericidal, virucidal and fungicidal. No product will be labeled for COVID-19 yet, but many will have human coronavirus efficacy either on the label or available on their website. The EPA has approved any product that has tested as effective against human coronavirus. If in doubt of the effectiveness, check the EPA website.
  - Disinfectant for immersion of tools, must be mixed daily and replaced sooner if it becomes contaminated throughout the work day. Disinfectant only works on a clean surface so clean all surfaces and tools with hot soapy water, Ship-shape or cleaning wipes (if using wipes, be sure to cover surface thoroughly) before disinfecting.
  - Contact time on label must be observed for disinfectant to work. Contact time refers to how long the disinfectant is visibly wet on the surface allowing it to thoroughly destroy all of the pathogens. Typical contact time for immersion/sprays is 10 minutes, for disinfectant wipes is 2-4 minutes.
  - Disinfectants used for immersion must be changed daily or sooner if it becomes contaminated (ex: hair/debris floating in solution or cloudy solution.)
  - Disinfection is for hard non-porous surfaces, glass metal and plastic.
  - Porous/soft surfaces can not be disinfected and must only be used once and then discarded (tools such as cardboard files, buffers, drill bits etc.)
  - Launder all linens, towels drapes, and smocks in hot soapy water and dry completely at the warmest temperature allowed and store in an airtight cabinet. Store all used/dirty linens in an airtight container.
  - **The use of mask is mandatory.** Place a clean towel, over the face of your client while at the

sink in a good way to protect their mouth, nose and eyes. Minimize to the greatest degree possible, up-close, direct face-to-face contact with clients.

- **Reception area -**

- Remove all unnecessary items such as magazines, newspapers, service menus, any other unnecessary paper products and decor. Wipe down all seats and tables; cloth chairs cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected, using a plastic cover should be considered.
- Wipe reception desk with disinfectant. Consider discontinuing use of paper appointment books or cards, and replace with electronic options
- Employees shall wash their hands after the using the phones, computer, cash register and/ or credit card machine. Wipe these surfaces between each use.
- Avoiding the exchange of cash can help greatly in preventing spread of virus, but if this is unavoidable, be sure to wash and sanitize hands well after each transaction. The use of credit/debit transactions is preferred, using touch/swipe/no signature technology.
- Clean and disinfect all retail areas, daily, including products. Try to avoid client touching products that they don't plan to purchase.
- Clean and wipe all door handles and other surfaces that are regularly touched by clients and staff with disinfectant wipes.
- Provide hand sanitizer and tissues for employees and clients.
- Consider floor stickers and signage that provide guidance for social distance
- Placement of visible and appropriate signage to communicate to the customer that thorough sanitation procedures are in place.
- Consider placement of sneeze shields.

- **Restrooms -**

- Clean and disinfect ALL restroom surfaces including floors, sinks and toilet bowls. Store paper products in a closed cabinet and provide antibacterial hand soap. Place trashcan by door. Remove anything that does not have to be in the restrooms.

- **Shampoo Bowls-**

- Clean and disinfect all bowls, hoses, spray nozzles, foist handles, shampoo chairs and arm rests. Wipe down all back-bar products and shelves. Discard and replace any products that have not been stored in a closed container.
- If available, wrap shampoo bowls in plastic and discarded between each client.
- Consider asking clients to wash their own hair before entering the shop.
- Limit as much as possible face-to-face contact with clients, and consider using face-shields by those employees providing shampoo services.

- **Work stations-**

- Clean and disinfect all work area surfaces. Clean and disinfect chairs, head rest, arm rests (the use of harsh disinfectants can damage leather chair, and cloth chairs cannot be disinfected, so please use a plastic covering). Clean and disinfect all reusable tools and store in an airtight closed container. Clean and disinfect all appliances, sheers, clippers, clipper

- guards, clippies, combs, brushes, and any other items used in connection with servicing clients.
- Check to make sure all products such as lotions, creams, waxes and scrubs have always been in a closed container, if not you must discard and replace.
  - Remove and discard all single use tools that have already been used.
  - Clean and disinfect all linen hampers and trash container and only use such container that can be closed and use with liners that can be removed and discarded.
  - Provide hand sanitizer at all work locations for employees and clients.
  - Consider station barriers between work stations
- **Treatment rooms-**
    - Clean and disinfect all surfaces such as, chairs, tables, electrical appliances (don't forget the cords).
    - Clean and disinfect all linens and store in a closed container/cabinet.
    - Clean and disinfect all hampers that hold soiled linens and be sure to use one that can be lined and closed.
    - Remove and discard any products that could have been contaminated by improper unsanitary use. Replace with new product.
  - **Administrative Controls-**
    - Employees who are sick **shall** be expected to stay home.
    - Shop owner/managers should provide training, educational materials, and reinforcement on proper sanitation, hand-washing, cough and sneeze etiquette, using PPE, and other protective behaviors.
    - Ensure break-rooms are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized and not used for congregating by employees.
    - Ensure that all sinks in the workplace have antibacterial soap available and papertowels.
    - Post handwashing signs in the restrooms.
    - Provide alcohol wipes for use at phone stations.
    - Be flexible with work schedules/shop hours to reduce the numbers of people (employees and clients) in shops at all times in order to maintain social distancing.
    - Provide Barbicide® or EPA disinfectant wipes, liquid disinfectant containers, and Barbicide® concentrate/or EPA approved disinfectant for disinfecting technical implements and work areas.
    - Consider discontinuing scalp, neck, and shoulder massages during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Barbicide Covid-19 Certification course will be mandatory, after June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 for all practicing barbers, and you will need to post your certificate at your work station, in-order for you practice on the public. This is a free course offered by Barbicide.

<https://barbicide.com/certification/>

# COVID-19 Operational Plan Development

## GOVERNMENT:

Lead engagement sessions over next two weeks:

- Focus on businesses that will need to prepare for lessening of restrictions.
- Lead department contacts industry associations and sets up conference call.
- **Industry associations** invite members at their discretion and serve as a central point of contact for any follow up with the lead department.
- Provide information on mandatory order, public health guidance, occupational health and safety guidelines and employment standards so the industry association and businesses can then develop COVID-19 operational plans.

## INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS:

Work with businesses to help them get ready to start business when restrictions are lessened by Government.

## BUSINESS OWNERS:

Business owners are required to develop, maintain and implement a written COVID-19 operational plan based on a risk assessment specific to their operations.

## GOVERNMENT:

Promote awareness and provide ongoing education opportunities so that public health and workplace safety protocols are well understood.

Inspections and enforcement may be conducted as necessary to ensure compliance in order to protect the public from unmitigated risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Next 2 Weeks

Prior to Business Opening

Ongoing

