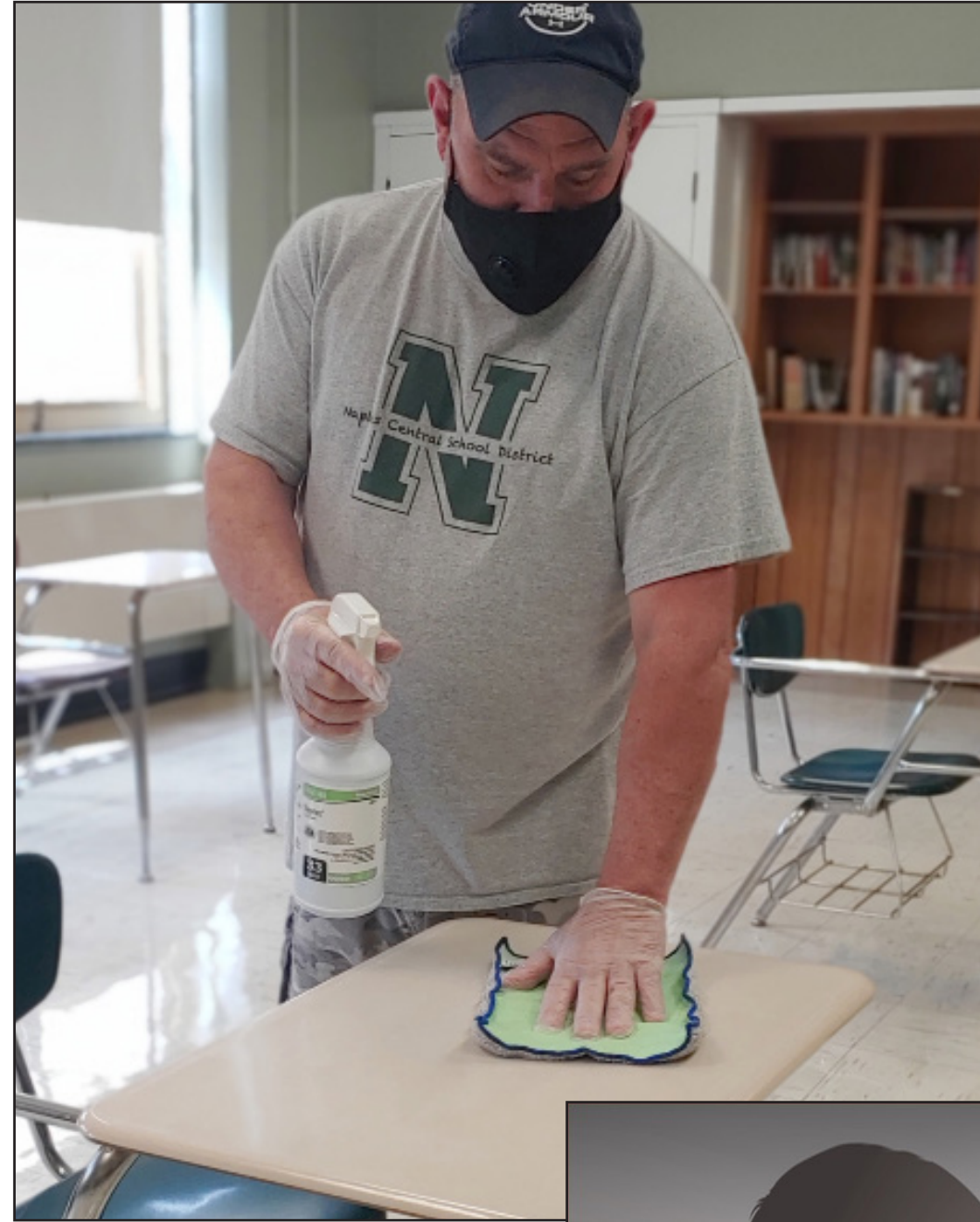


# Cleaning after COVID-19

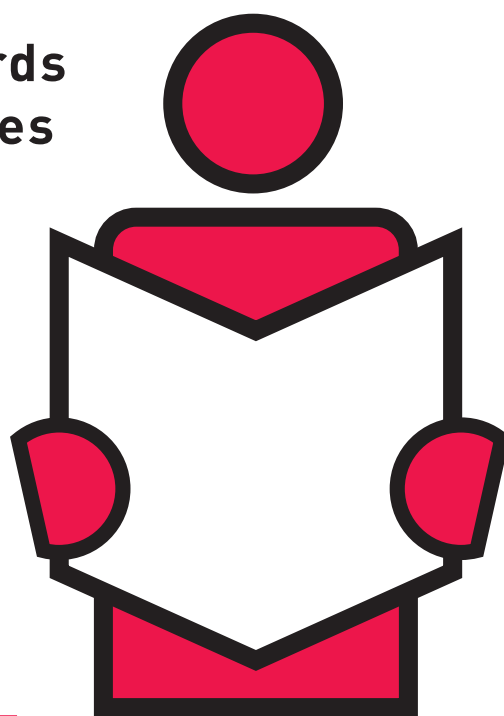


## YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW!

Your employer must inform you of the health effects and hazards of toxic substances at your worksite.

Learn all you can about toxic substances on your job.

For more information, contact:



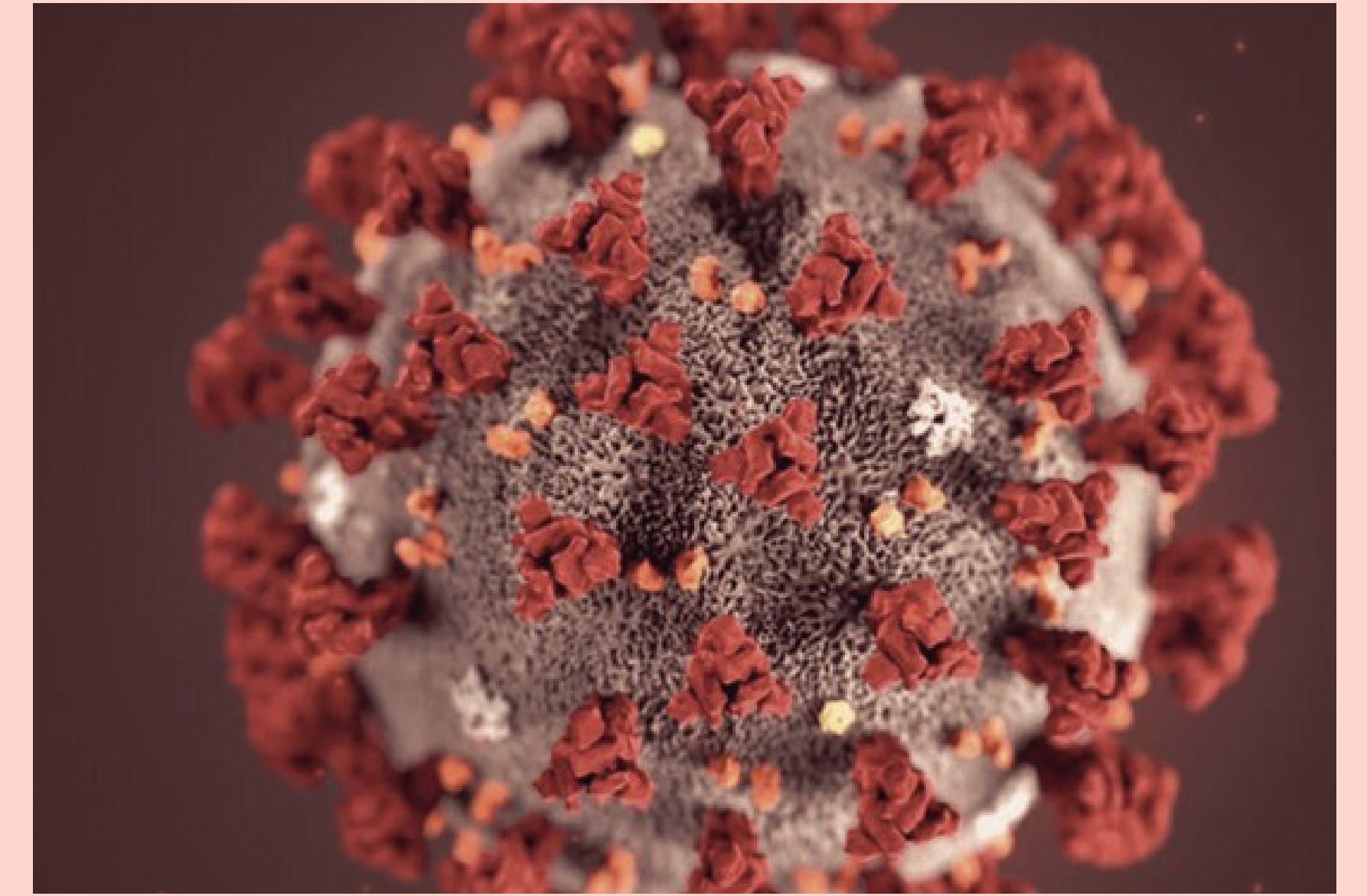
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Location & Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW WORKS FOR YOU.  
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## Cleaning and Disinfection are different.

- **Cleaning** removes germs, dirt, and impurities.
- Cleaning does not kill germs, but lowers the risk of spreading infection.
- Dirty surfaces should be first cleaned using a detergent or soap and water.
- **Disinfecting** uses chemicals to kill germs on surfaces.
- When disinfecting, only use approved disinfectants or bleach solution.
- **Disinfectants work better on clean surfaces.**

## Protecting Yourself When Cleaning

- **Close off the suspected area and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection.**
- **Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.** If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
- **Wear disposable gloves for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.** Gloves should be compatible with the disinfectant products being used.
- Additional protective equipment might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used.
- Always follow manufacturer's instructions for all disinfectants used.
- **Cleaning staff should immediately report breaches in PPE (e.g., tear in gloves) or any potential exposures to their supervisor.**
- A surgical or medical style mask will not protect you from chemicals.
- If bleach solutions are used, make sure the bleach hasn't passed the expiration date. **Never mix bleach and ammonia.**



## Coronavirus and COVID-19

- Coronavirus are a large group of viruses that can infect both humans and animals.
- SARS-Cov-2 is the actual name of the specific strain of the coronavirus in the news now.
- Primarily spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- **Person-to-person contact is the primary mode of transmission** (less than 6 feet from infected individuals).
- It also may be possible to get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it.
- The virus may remain active on smooth surfaces for hours to up to 3 days.
- People are most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest).
- Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms.

