





## Improve The Health of Your Buildings

### 11 Things You Can Do to Improve Your Building Against COVID-19 Exposure

As Labarre learns more and more about building wellness due to our involvement in [our state-of-the-art WELL-Registered project](#), we become more aware of how the built environment and facility operations and maintenance tie into the health and wellness of occupants. Because WELL is based in science and not a gut-reaction of what may work, information is constantly catching up to what the world is finding out about viruses and microbes.

This could not be more relevant than it is today, during the COVID-19 pandemic and gradual return to opening public buildings. So what can YOU do to make sure your staff and the public is safe within your buildings besides the obvious hand sanitization stands and temperature screenings?

1. **Don't allow your employees to eat at their desks.** (\$) 
2. Keep **HVAC filters** clean. More important than upgrading to more efficient filters is making sure that your filters are changed regularly. (\$)
3. Bring **more outdoor air** inside. (\$)
4. Add **filters to drinking water** and ice maker supply lines. (\$)
5. **Replace faucets** on your sinks so that there is a 10" gap between the bottom of the sink and the bottom of the tap. (\$\$)
6. Change out hand dryers to **paper towel dispensers**. Hand dryers can re-aerosolize microbes that remain on your hands after washing them, and are often not as touch-free as paper towel dispensers. (\$\$)
7. Bring **plants indoors**. Plants improve the indoor air quality and also improve the micro-biome of the indoor environment. (\$\$) 
8. Change your entry doors to **non-touch entries** (aka upgrade to automatic doors). (\$\$)
9. **Flush your building's water pipes and hot water heater** if the building has been sitting unused. (\$\$)
10. Keep **indoor humidity** between 40-60% - if your HVAC cannot allow for this, it may be sized wrong and need replacing. (\$-\$\$\$)
11. Install **ultraviolet air treatment controls** in public areas. These treatment devices can be added to existing HVAC systems or you can get UVGI lights to disinfect surfaces and objects. (\$\$\$)

Of course, there are many more opportunities for improvement. We can help with building assessments prior to reopening as well as recommendations for policy changes, building change scope packages and construction services to upgrade systems within your building.