

SHARED PRACTICES TO HELP PROTECT EVERYONE FROM COVID-19 AT THE PUMP



Gas stations and convenience stores provide the fuel needed to keep America moving during the COVID-19 global pandemic. The health and safety of customers, station employees, and vendors are our top priorities, so we have developed these shared practices to help everyone protect themselves at the pump.

Most gas station owners around the country have taken steps to protect customers and employees while remaining open to provide essential services. API members are taking a variety of steps, including:

- Offering mobile payment options, reducing contact needed at the pump.
- Increasing the cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched objects and surfaces, such as point-of-sale screens, pin pads, product select buttons for octane level, nozzle handles, and hoses using cleaners effective against the COVID-19 virus.
- Placing paper towels at the pump island to allow a “no touch” experience.
- Placing informative signage at the convenience store or the pump to remind employees and customers to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations to protect themselves from COVID-19:
 - Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, and then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Making alcohol-based hand sanitizers (minimum 60% alcohol/70% isopropanol) available inside the convenience store upon request.
- Following vendors’ recommendations for cleaning the dispensers and both outdoor and indoor point-of-sale systems.



Customers have a part to play in staying Safe and Smart at the Pump. API encourages customers to:

- Follow the CDC recommendations to protect themselves against COVID-19, like cleaning your hands often, practicing social distancing, and wearing face coverings.
- Continue following consumer refueling safety guidelines:
 - Turn off your vehicle engine.
 - Don’t smoke.
 - Don’t re-enter your vehicle during refueling. If you do, discharge the static electricity before going to the nozzle.
 - Only use approved gas cans and fill them slowly.
 - ALWAYS place gas cans on the ground to fill. NEVER fill them in a car, SUV, or bed of a truck.
 - Never allow children under licensed age to operate the pump.

Be creative:

Consider using dog-waste bags as an alternative to gloves. They are inexpensive, readily available and allow a “no touch” experience.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. For the current information, requirements, and recommendations, please visit the following websites:

- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- Local governments and health departments

Please review the websites of individual API members for more information about the actions they are taking.