What is the Disease?
- A new virus that causes respiratory illness with symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath.
- It is spread through the air by coughing or sneezing, by close personal contact, or touching a surface that is contaminated with the virus.
- Older individuals and those with underlying medical conditions are more at risk.
- Currently there is no evidence to support that the transmission of the virus is associated with food.

What Can Food Pantries Do?
- Be prepared. Conditions can rapidly change. Have an action plan and communication plan in place and train employees and volunteers.
- Pre-box or bag all food items to allow for quicker pickup. Make sure that all refrigerated foods stay at 41 degrees or less until pick up.
- To aid in social distancing, consider food delivery, curbside pickup, drive thru, or by appointment time.
- If possible, encourage only one family member come to your site to pick up food.
- Work with food recovery agencies and local restaurants that may be closing to help stock your pantry.
- If you need help with food safety challenges during this time, please call Environmental Health or email EH@peoriacounty.org.

Employee/Volunteer Illness:
- Communicate with all employees and volunteers that they need to stay home if sick or if they are showing flu-like symptoms.

Hand Hygiene:
- Promote the daily practice of everyday preventive actions such as social distancing, covering coughs and sneezes, avoid touching the face, and hand washing. If you need handwashing signs, please email EH@peoriacounty.org.
- Ensure all employees and volunteers know how to properly wash hands, including using a barrier to turn off the water and open restroom doors.
- Hand sanitizers MAY NOT be used in the place of handwashing for anyone preparing food. Hand sanitizers may be used for those handling packaged food items.

Cleaning and Sanitizing:
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces like door knobs, railings, etc. on a routine basis.
- Frequently clean and sanitize food contact surfaces that are handled by multiple people.
- If using bleach to sanitize or disinfect, make sure it is EPA registered. Scented and splashless bleaches are not EPA registered. Bleach should be mixed to 50-200ppm for sanitizing surfaces and 600-800ppm for disinfecting.

Resource Information:
Peoria City/County Health Department - Environmental Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Illinois Department of Public Health
State of Illinois COVID-19 Question Hotline
Local Questions and Community Resources

309-679-6161
www.cdc.gov
www.dph.illinois.gov
1-800-889-3931
2-1-1 or 309-999-4029