Chapter 9: Real Estate Inspection Policy - Appendix A

A. Policy Statement:

The intent of this addition to the Real Estate Inspection Policy is to mitigate the possibility of COVID-19 transmission during this pandemic and ensure the health and safety of staff as well as residents.

B. Procedures:

1. Scheduling

   a) When scheduling an inspection, the sanitarian must notify the applicant of this policy and its requirements. The applicant must also be notified that if they do not comply with the safety guidelines in this policy the sanitarian will reschedule the inspection for a later date when the guidelines can be met.

   b) The sanitarian shall ask the applicant if resident(s) of the property have recently developed symptoms of COVID-19 such as: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, in ability to taste or smell or any other symptom recognized by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. If someone living in the home is currently presenting COVID-19 symptoms the applicant must call the department back to schedule three days after symptoms have resolved.

   c) The sanitarian must also inform the applicant that:
      - They must limit the number of people present during the inspection to only one other person.
      - All persons present for the inspection must be wearing a mask and stay socially distant.
      - No person(s) who has traveled out of the country within the last 14 days, tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 10 days or been in physical contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days shall be at the property during the inspection.

2. Inspection

   a) The sanitarian should stock gloves, masks, disinfecting wipes and a container for disposal of these items in their vehicles along with hand sanitizer/soap and water prior to leaving the office.
b) The sanitarian must practice social distancing at all times while in the field.

c) Prior to entering the residence or beginning the inspection the sanitarian must ask the resident/person present at the inspection:

- Are you currently having COVID-19 symptoms including: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, in ability to taste or smell?
- Have you been tested for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Have you been in contact with a COVID-19 positive patient in the last 14 days?
- Have you traveled out of the state in the last 14 days?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, the sanitarian shall reschedule the inspection.

d) If the person(s) present at the property during the inspection is not wearing a mask a surgical style mask will be provided to them by the sanitarian. If the person refuses to wear the mask the inspection will be rescheduled.

e) The sanitarian shall wear gloves and a mask or face covering at all times during the inspection. It is preferred for the sanitarian to wear a N95 type mask.

f) The sanitarian shall refrain from touching their face, mask or cellphone without first removing their gloves and washing or sanitizing their hands.

g) The sanitarian shall remove their gloves and wash or sanitize their hands prior to entry of their vehicle. When the inspection is complete the sanitarian may remove their mask and immediately wash or sanitize their hands.

h) The sanitarian should consider using designated equipment for inspections such as a pen, clipboard, cooler, spray bottle and flashlight. These items must be cleaned often but considered contaminated.

Laura Fauss  
Division Coordinator  
5/13/20  
Date

Wesley J. Vins  
Health Commissioner  
5/18/20  
Date

Our Vision: "A safe community of healthy people"