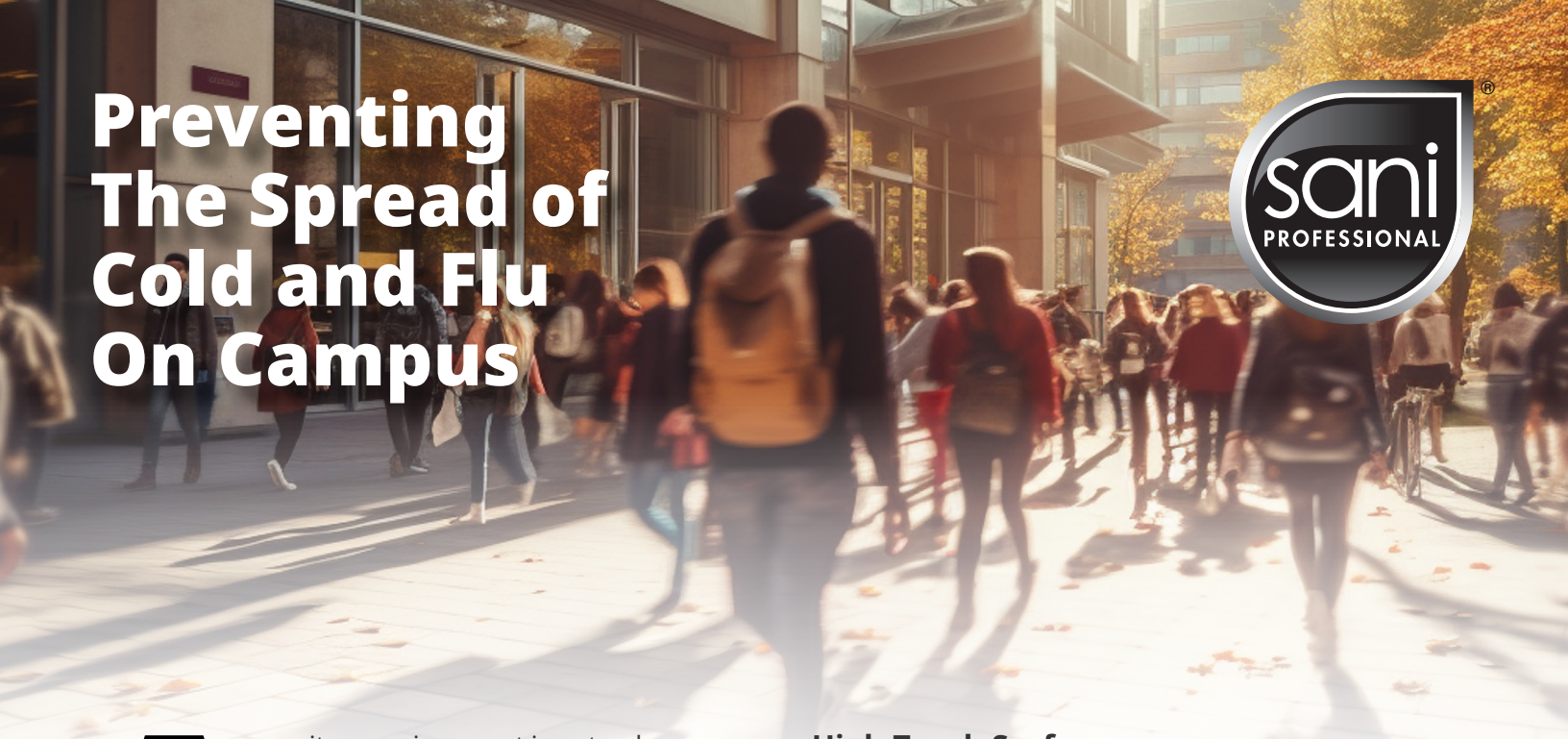


Preventing The Spread of Cold and Flu On Campus

A sanitary environment is not only aesthetically pleasing, but it's also healthier for its inhabitants. This is even more apparent during the winter months, otherwise known as the cold and flu season. Facilities that are crowded and don't have much down time, such as college campuses can be among the most vulnerable environments. Cold and flu viruses can spread quickly on college campuses and affect the health and attendance of students and staff alike. Research indicates that flu attack rates among subgroups of college students could get as high as 73%[1] and 75% of employees will miss time at work because of the flu.[2]

One of the primary ways that cold and flu viruses are transmitted is through cross contamination. Infected individuals release droplets of bodily fluids that contain contagious viruses by sneezing, coughing and speaking. A sneeze can result in droplets that travel up to 6 feet.[3] These viruses, in turn, can live on surfaces for up to 48 hours.[4] When people touch an infected surface with their hands and then touch another surface, cross contamination may occur. Just think of how often and by how many individuals these "high touch" surfaces are handled within a busy campus.

Flu rates among college students can be as high as 73%.[1]

75% of employees will miss time at work because of the flu.[2]

High-Touch Surfaces

Doors and door handles

Light and elevator switches

Railings

Countertops

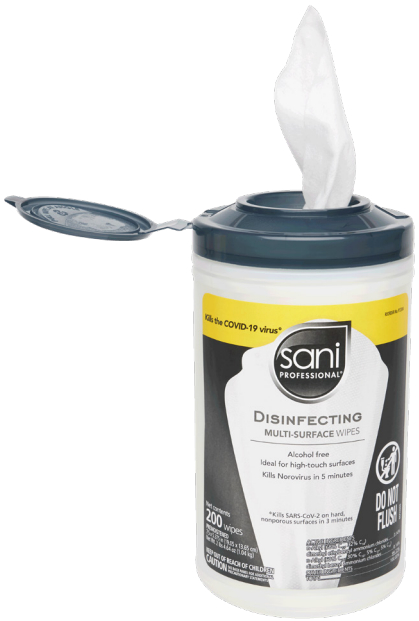
Chairs, benches, tables, etc.

Even if these surfaces are treated with a disinfectant and the viruses are killed, they can be re-contaminated throughout a busy day and night on a 24/7 college campus. Additionally, if a disinfectant isn't prepared or used correctly it may not kill the virus in the first place,

A sneeze can result in droplets that travel up to 6 feet.[3] These viruses, in turn, can live on surfaces for up to 48 hours.[4]

and a reusable rag could also transmit the virus from one surface to another.

It is common for cleaning staff to struggle with ensuring that sanitizing and disinfecting solutions are properly measured. "Inappropriate over-dilution of disinfectant solutions by custodial staff or by malfunctioning automated solution systems may result in applying disinfectants using inappropriately low concentrations."[5] Studies also show that rigorous wringing out of the solution from the towel may result in the treated surface not remaining wet long enough for proper disinfection to occur. Problems can also arise from the cloth used to apply the solution. While reusable microfiber cloths may contribute to reducing bacteria on contaminated surfaces, they can also spread that bacteria to other surfaces during subsequent cleaning.[6]



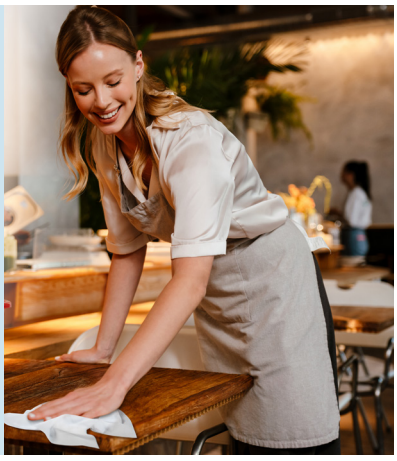
USING READY-TO-USE WIPES CAN HELP REDUCE VIRAL SPREAD

The use of disposable ready-to-use (RTU) wipes can be a more effective tool in helping to reduce the spread of cold and flu viruses and in turn will likely reduce the incidence of illness.

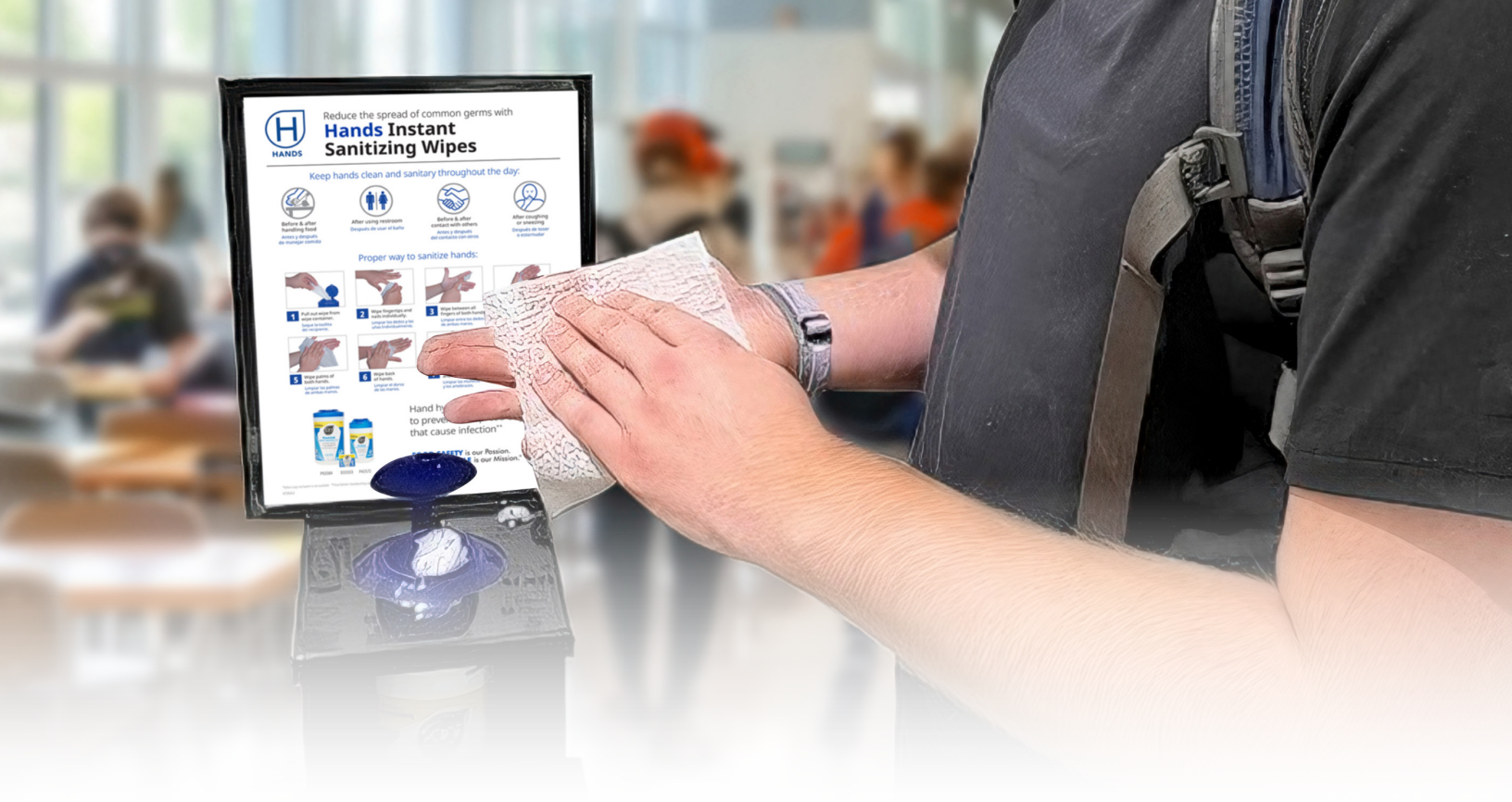
Here's how disposable RTU wipes are more effective than traditional methods:

- **Fast and convenient**
  - Always ready to use
  - Portable; does not require extra tools like buckets, spray bottles, towels
- **Reduces human and situational errors**

It takes 30% less time to complete a disinfection task with RTU wipes versus the traditional cloth and bucket method.



  - No mixing or measuring is required
  - Each wipe contains and releases the correct amount of solution to be effective
  - No reliance on correct water temperature, water hardness, cleanliness of bucket, spray bottle, solution, or towels



- **Requires less training**
  - Fewer steps to learn and remember
  - Intuitive design

- **Reduces cross contamination**
  - Use on one surface and then dispose

Since frequency is important in disinfecting high touch surfaces in the fight against cross contamination, it's worth noting that research shows it takes 30% less time to complete a disinfection task with RTU wipes versus the traditional cloth and bucket method.[7]

The second major component of reducing cross contamination and illness is good hand hygiene. The CDC recommends washing your hands with soap and water and, if that is not available, then using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.[8] A good alternative is alcohol-based hand wipes. Unlike gels, they physically remove the dirt and germs from hands.[9] Creating hand hygiene stations throughout campus will make it easier and more convenient for students, staff, and visitors to sanitize their hands and contribute less to the spread of cold and flu viruses.

NOT ALL READY-TO-USE WIPES ARE CREATED EQUAL

When choosing the best RTU wipe for your needs consider the following:

1. Quality of wipe and brand reputation
2. Reliable availability and supply
3. Product efficacy: check the product label or technical data bulletin to make sure they are effective against the microorganisms you are targeting and if the kill times meet your needs.
4. EPA (disinfecting) or FDA (hand wipes) compliant in all 50 states, where applicable
5. Product compatibility: will it degrade the surfaces, is it abrasive, is it safe to use on electronic devices, etc.? Is the surface left clean and free of chemical residue/unsightly streaks?
6. Packaging and accessories: is the product easy to store, dispense, and incorporate into your environment? Does the packaging protect the wetness/integrity of the wipes?
7. Does handling require gloves?
8. Does it have a strong odor?
9. Availability of bilingual training materials

---

[1] *Guh A, Reed C, Gould LH, et al. Transmission of 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) at a Public University—Delaware, April–May 2009. Clin Infect Dis. 2011;52(Supplement 1): S131–S137. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciq029.*

[2] *https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36515814/*

[3] *https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7462404/*

[4] *https://www.health.com/condition/flu/flu-virus-live-on-surfaces*

[5] *Boyce JM. Modern technologies for improving cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces in hospitals. Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control. 2016;5(1). Doi:10.1186/s13756-016-01110x.*

[6] *Begen L, et al. Spread of bacteria on surfaces when cleaning with microfiber cloths. Journal of Hospital Infection. 2009;71(2):132-137. doi:10.1016/j.jihn.2008.10.025.*

[7] *Wiemken, T. L., Curran, D. R. Pacholski, E. B. Kelley, R. R. Abdelfattah, R. R. Carrico, R. M., et al. (2014). The value of ready-to-use disinfectant wipes: Compliance, employee time, and costs. American Journal of Infection Control 42(3), p. 330.*

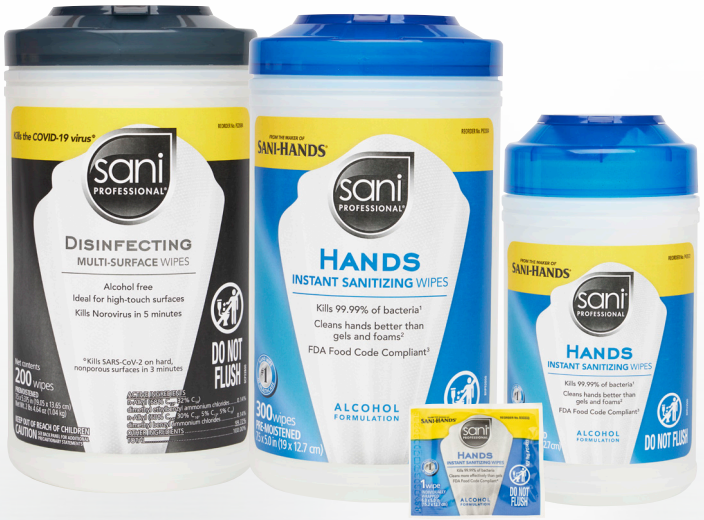
[8] *https://www.cdc.gov/clean-hands/about/index.html*

[9] *Independent Study: Hill Top Research Laboratory, Miami, OH, November 2004*

Give Your Staff And Campus A Fighting Chance

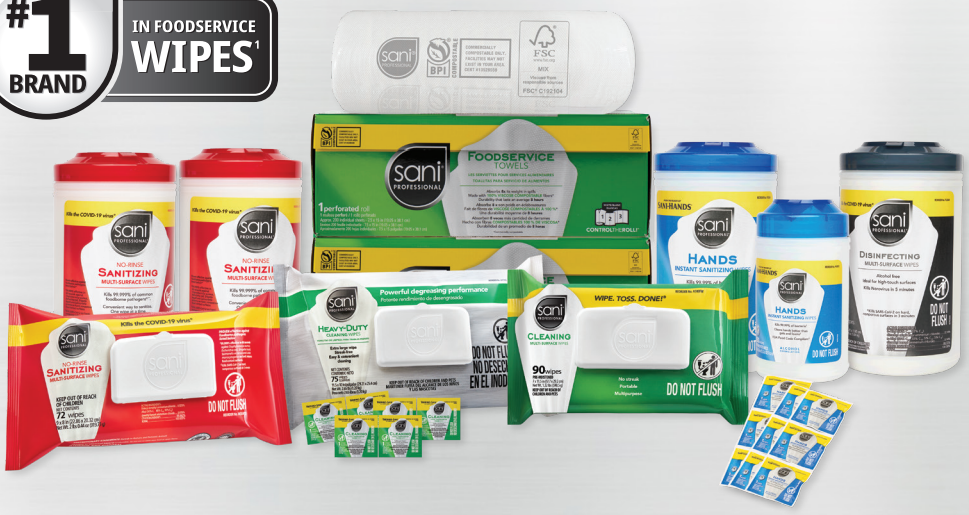
To Meet The Cold And Flu Season Head On

Reduce the spread of viruses by incorporating the best Ready-to-Use disinfecting and hand sanitizing wipes into your sanitation protocol. Sani Professional® can help by providing you with the information and guidance you need to make the best decision for your circumstance.



Scan to learn more about Sani Professional's full line of Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Hands Products and Accessories.

#1 BRAND IN FOODSERVICE WIPES[1]



[1] *Kline (Kline & Company) data, H1 2024*

Clean Confidently®

For more information or to order any of these products, contact Sani Professional®
Customer Care at: 866.673.4376 | info@saniprofessional.com

sani PROFESSIONAL®

FOOD SAFETY is our Passion.
Making it **SIMPLE** is our Mission.®

67227v8