Ventilation in Department of Commerce Facilities

The Department is following the latest CDC and GSA guidelines on building ventilation, heating, and air conditioning.

The Department’s ventilation improvements are part of its larger reentry strategy to help keep you safe. Our ventilation solutions prevent the spread of COVID-19 and improve indoor air quality at the same time.

✓ DOC-owned buildings follow CDC HVAC recommendations based on existing equipment, current configuration, and re-occupancy schedule.
✓ DOC-leased buildings similarly adhere to CDC HVAC guidance when possible.

DOC Ventilation Solutions

- To the maximum extent feasible, increased ventilation rates
- Increased outdoor air ventilation, while considering outdoor air quality and weather conditions
- Identified and implemented HVAC replacement and repair projects to ensure ventilation systems operate properly
- Disabled demand-control ventilation
- Improved filtration and ensured air filters are properly sealed
- Upgraded air handler filtration efficiency
- Increased operating hours
- Committed to revising HVAC guidance as new CDC standards become available

HCHB-Specific Solutions

- Used Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UVGI) light and enhanced filtering within the air handling units to kill viral, bacterial, and fungal organisms
- Increased the quantity of air exchanges of the HCHB HVAC systems by expanding the building’s daily flushing sequence

For the latest Department resources, please visit the COVID-19 Information Hub.