A message about COVID-19 from ACEC/NC

Dear ACEC/NC Members,

As our local communities begin to feel the effects of COVID-19 (Coronavirus disease 2019) virus, we understand that this is uncharted territory for our industry. As Engineers and Engineering firm employees, our daily jobs can be in the office or out in the field. We know that many jobs in the Engineering industry just don’t have the option to simply log onto software or talk about a project via Go to Meeting or Zoom. As such, we are monitoring the impacts to the industry and will keep you informed on major announcements related to our state.

For up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, please visit the [CDC’s website](https://www.cdc.gov) and share with your employees. The CDC recommends the following preventive actions:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds - after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Wash hands before and after touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Stop handshaking – use other non-contact methods of greeting
- Use videoconferencing for meetings when possible
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Concerning travel, the CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

Our office continues to stay in contact with ACEC National and other state agencies as we navigate the risks and impacts of COVID-19.

We will monitor future events and inform all members of schedule changes or cancellations. If you have additional industry concerns or seek advice on how to communicate with your employees, please contact me via email at jsmith@acecnc.org.

James A. Smith, Jr., PE, Executive Director
American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina