Conduct of Inspections During COVID-19

IDEM is cognizant that some regulated entities may have additional health and safety measures in place and/or limited staff to assist with conducting inspections during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. IDEM will take necessary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while continuing to conduct inspections as appropriate to ensure compliance with applicable environmental requirements.

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, IDEM inspectors will be taking the following precautions:

- Wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE) which, at minimum, will include a face mask and any additional equipment appropriate for the site, which may include gloves, goggles, and boot covers.
- Frequent handwashing and/or use of hand sanitizer before and after visiting facilities.
- To the maximum extent possible, maintaining at least six feet of social distancing.
- To the maximum extent possible, receiving and providing documents through contactless, electronic communications.

IDEM staff will also comply with reasonable screening protocols enacted by regulated entities including non-invasive temperature screenings, brief medical questionnaires, and signing visitor logs. IDEM staff will not comply with onerous or invasive preconditions, nor will they sign any document that imposes legal conditions on the visit, including releases, waivers, agreements or assumptions of liability in order to gain access to the facility. IDEM is authorized by several laws, including IC 13-14-2-2, to have designated agents, upon presentation of proper credentials, enter private or public property to inspect and investigate possible environmental violations. Such inspections are necessary to allow IDEM to perform its duties in protecting public health and the environment.