

Ryan F. Quarles
Commissioner



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Kentucky Department of Agriculture

March 12, 2020

Brian Clark
Executive Director
Kentucky Petroleum Marketers Association
2365 Harrodsburg Road
Suite A325
Lexington, KY 40504

Dear Brian,

As you know, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) is tasked with numerous consumer protection responsibilities as it relates to gas stations in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I wanted to write the Kentucky Petroleum Marketers Association to urge you and your members to take actions that will help reduce the transmission of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Kentucky.

We are all still learning about this particular strain of coronavirus, but we do know that it can remain on surfaces many days after initial contact.

Here are some actions the KDA recommends your members consider:

- **Sanitation:** Many businesses across Kentucky provide hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes to visitors. We applaud those members who already provide these items to their customers and encourage the members who do not currently provide those items to consider providing them.
- **Pumps and Keypads:** We encourage gas stations and other fueling stations to frequently disinfect pumps and keypads that experience heavy use from consumers.
- **Education:** I urge you and your members to stay current with the latest information regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.
 - The World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
 - The Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services: www.kycovid19.ky.gov
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

While the number of cases in Kentucky remains low, these recommendations are helpful in protecting public health against a number of diseases, not only coronavirus.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ryan F. Quarles
Commissioner of Agriculture
Commonwealth of Kentucky

