

How to Handle Illnesses during Transportation

Many people visit Branson from different areas of the United States and some bring viral or bacterial “bugs” with them and spread them to other visitors. Because of this, you will more than likely have one or more ill passengers on your bus at some time. The length of time that the illness stays on your bus and the number of passengers exposed will depend on your immediate response to the situation. Don’t let your bus become a “big incubator”! The following procedures will help you stop the spread of illnesses.

Contain, Decontaminate, and Cover

When an illness is reported, get the ill passenger to the front of the bus and have a waste basket ready as needed. If vomiting has already occurred in an area, move other passengers out of that area, and spray the area generously with cleaner and then cover the area of sickness with absorbent material such as towels, powder, etc.

Cleanup

Protect yourself: Gloves (Yes!) Mask (strongly recommended)

Cleanup means to remove the stuff from the contaminated area without spreading it any further than it is. (Don’t wash it out, scoop it up) Preferably use a dust pan and trowel to place the material in a waste basket. Spray the cleaner everywhere to decontaminate the immediate area and any area that may have been “splattered” to eliminate and control the “bug”.

Place everything in a bag lined wastebasket and spray the bag, close it and discard as soon as possible.

Report the illness

To properly track the illness and to help prevent further spread of the virus please report illnesses to your hotel’s management and any other place where a person may have gotten ill including public restrooms. If a contaminated area is not cleaned properly, the contaminated surfaces will make other people sick.

If you have a cluster of passengers become ill, notify the local health department as soon as possible. To help the investigation, please collect the following information for each passenger who was ill: Name, age, symptoms, phone number, date and time of illness. Tour Group information should include: an itinerary including city of origin, name of hotels, dates of arrival and departure; total number of passengers and staff on the bus; total number ill; and contact information for all passengers. This information will only be used for investigative purposes and will not be released to others. This information is very important as it helps identify a likely source and helps to prevent additional illnesses in the community.