

## Guidance on Distillery-made Hand Sanitizer

Due to the rapidly evolving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, we understand that it is becoming difficult to access alcohol-based hand sanitizers. We are also aware of reports that some companies are producing hand sanitizers for personal use, such as Distilleries. Although the Postal Service lacks information on the methods being used to prepare such products and whether they are safe for use, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a policy for *Temporary Compounding of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products*: <https://www.fda.gov/media/136118/download>.

Because of the public health emergency caused by COVID-19, the FDA does not intend to take action against compounders that prepare alcohol-based hand sanitizers for consumer use for the duration of the public health emergency. Therefore, due to the lack of hand sanitizing liquids available to the Postal Service, hand sanitizer formulated by independent sources can be used if they meet the following FDA requirements:

1. Review the Safety Data Sheet information from the distillers to identify the formulations used. If the product is one of the following 2 formulations, you can proceed with purchase:

Formulation # 1	Formulation # 2
Ethanol (96%)	Isopropyl Alcohol (99.8%)
Hydrogen Peroxide (3%)	Hydrogen Peroxide (3%)
Glycerol (98%)	Glycerol (98%)
Sterile Distilled or Boiled Cold Water	Sterile Distilled or Boiled Cold Water

2. All hand sanitizer product must contain at least 60% alcohol
3. Each container must be labeled to note the final concentration of alcohol in the product
4. Each product must be packaged in suitable containers.
5. The expiration date on the label or container must be clearly marked.

This policy does not extend to other types of products, such as products that use different active ingredients, whose potency falls above or below the formulation described in the FDA or WHO guidelines. See FDA or WHO guidelines for more information:

- FDA - <https://www.fda.gov/media/136118/download>.
- WHO - [https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Guide\\_to\\_Local\\_Production.pdf](https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Guide_to_Local_Production.pdf)

Additionally, Postal policy requires this product to be stored and handled according to Maintenance and Safety Guidelines. Please see MTSC website for additional information.