March 16, 2020

You may have questions about how to properly clean surfaces in VCU owned and operated state vehicles. We have provided some best practice tips for how to effectively clean the surfaces of vehicles below.

Take these steps when cleaning the surfaces in your state-owned vehicle:

* Use a disinfecting wipe on hard surfaces, such as keys, door handles, steering wheel, dashboard, center console, cup holders, controls and seat adjustment levers
* Use a disinfecting spray on seat area only; make sure to spray two feet from seat fabric and vent vehicle for 10 minutes after
* **Do NOT use any wipes or spray on the electronic display**
* Clean electronic displays, by spraying a small amount of water and soap into a soft cloth and gently wiping the areas with the cloth

Please adhere to these preventative measures when cleaning surfaces in your VCU owned vehicle:

* Do NOT spray or wipe any sort of cleaner on switches, electronic devices or display screens, especially alcohol-based cleaners
* Do not use bleach based sprays on fabric surfaces or carpet
* Do not use cleaning solvents, bleach or dye on vehicle's seat belts, as these may weaken the belt webbing
* On vehicles equipped with seat-mounted airbags, do not use chemical solvents or strong detergents; such products could contaminate the side airbag system and affect the performance of the side airbag in a crash
* Do not use chemical solvents or strong detergents when cleaning the steering wheel or instrument panel to avoid contamination of the airbag system
* Do not use water or acidic cleaners (hot steam cleaners) on the seat as this can damage the seat or occupant classification sensor and can affect the operation of the air bag system, resulting in serious personal injury

If you have any questions about cleaning techniques, do not hesitate to reach out to Scott Merriman, Fleet Manager at 828-6585 or email “merrimanes@vcu.edu”