

# Bring Germ City to Your City!



Two Minnesota Department of Health Food Safety Partnership “Germ City” handwashing displays are available for use at your community or professional event. Due to set-up and take down time (about 45 minutes each), we recommend using Germ City for larger or longer events.

Germ City is a science based, educational program to improve the effectiveness and frequency of hand washing behaviors in adults and children.



Volunteers apply GlitterBug lotion to visitors’ hands. Visitors enter Germ City to see ‘pretend germs’ glow under the black lights. Then they wash their hands, and re-enter Germ City unit to see how well they washed. Germ City can accommodate four or five adults; six or seven children at a time.

Germ City units are black canvas, hung on an easily assembled aluminum frame. The units are seven feet tall, three feet wide and seven feet long. They have openings at each end, and come equipped with black lights.



Germ City is wheelchair accessible and meets fire codes. The unit needs to be set up indoors, near an electrical outlet and handwashing facilities. Germ City comes packed into a rolling case that fits into most cars.

The display comes with a set-up manual, handwashing talking points, and Glitterbug lotion. Handwashing curricula are available on request.



Germ City has been used at the Minnesota State Fair (more than 12,000 visitors in 2008) county fairs, hospitals, open houses, libraries, schools, employee training and infection control events, and restaurants.

You will need to make arrangements to pick up and return Germ City. MDH will assist with these arrangements whenever possible. For more information, or to reserve Germ City, contact Deborah Durkin at MDH: [deborah.durkin@state.mn.us](mailto:deborah.durkin@state.mn.us), 651-201-4509 or 651-295-5392.

