



American Restroom Association

America's Advocate for Clean, Safe, Well-Designed Public Restrooms

An independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded in 2004 - EIN # 20-3581202.

ARA eZine

November 2020

World Toilet Day • John Waters' Bathrooms • The Reading Room: "No Place to Go" • AmazonSmile Now Available • Now Trending: Student Restroom Survey and Experts' COVID Recommendations

Welcome to the 3rd Issue of the ARA's monthly eZine!

At the American Restroom Association, we are passionate about improving the experience of public restrooms in the United States. If you are receiving this newsletter, then we believe that you are, too! We all know that we are inundated with things that fill our inbox. Our promise is that we will do our best to keep our new eZine a quick read that gives you a fast scan of information that is new and valuable, and provides links for a deeper dive, should you be interested. Be sure to forward on to like-minded individuals and [let us know](#) what you think. And, PS, if you've got an interesting suggestion for a name, we're all ears! - Tim Pyle, Executive Director



The ARA Celebrated World Toilet Day on November 19 with a release of a [new video](#) calling for an increased effort for improving accommodations across the world and especially in the US. ARA President and Co-Founder, Dr. Steven Soifer, states,

"Our goal is nothing less than a toilet revolution in this country so that our public restrooms are no longer a laughingstock among the developed world. It's not only us, the American people, who think that many restrooms are deplorable, tourists from across the world are appalled by the state of public toilets in the US. Only by working together and forming a strong advocacy group for decent public toilets are we going to be able to bring about the necessary changes in these public accommodations." Click the graphic above to watch!



*John Waters:
Baltimore Sun photo
by Karl Merton Ferron*

Bathrooms Named in Honor of Baltimore Art Icon, John Waters

'John Waters, Baltimore's self-proclaimed "Pope of Trash," announced Wednesday that he's bequeathing some of the most precious things he owns — approximately 375 prints, paintings and photographs — to the Baltimore Museum of Art.

'In a show of appreciation, museum officials will rename two bathrooms in the East Lobby "The John Waters Restrooms" in honor of the cult filmmaker and visual artist. The domed room in the European art galleries also will be christened "The John Waters Rotunda."

'Waters sees the gesture as similar to the impulse that resulted in "Fountain," Marcel Duchamp's famous 1917 sculpture of a urinal.

"Renaming the bathrooms was my idea right from the beginning," he said. "They thought I was kidding and I said, 'No, I'm serious.' It's in the spirit of the artwork I collect, which has a sense of humor and is confrontational and minimalist and which makes people crazy."

[Read more at baltimoresun.com . . .](https://www.baltimoresun.com)

Excerpt of an article by Mary Carole McCauley, Baltimore Sun, November 11, 2020

Donate & Join Today!

In many respects, the American Restroom Association is like a 16-year-old "start up." Through a generous grant from its sibling nonprofit, the [International Paruresis Association](#), the ARA is embarking on an ambitious growth plan for 2021.

In motion even before COVID-19, the ARA is poised to expand the voice of Americans in demanding access to clean, safe, and well-designed public restrooms. Won't you join us on this quest with a tax-deductible membership gift of at least \$50? Click the button



below to make your gift through our official giving portal, Network for Good.

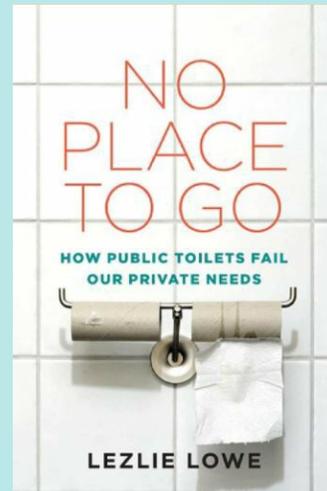


This Tuesday, December 1, 2020!

GI  **INGTUESDAY**

The Reading Room: "No Place to Go"

Many people ask us, "So, what's in your reading rooms?" Right now, we're reading "**No Place to Go**" (Coach House Books, 2018) by Lezlie Lowe. What's so refreshing is the frankness with which Lezlie approaches the subject - no holding back on language here. Any reader can identify with the struggles of finding restrooms for her growing young children which springboards Lezlie into an international investigation into the lack of public accommodations. An easy and entertaining read. Available on Amazon by clicking the book graphic.



While you are checking out Lezlie's book, you should know that AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. **The donation will be made at no extra cost to you.** Click the graphic to start supporting the American Restroom Association with your purchases!

Now Trending:

Quick hits from the web and interesting items from the ARA Inbox.

Bradley Survey Shows School Restrooms Get a Low Grade from Students During Coronavirus

[The following is an excerpt from a recent Bradley press release graciously shared with ARA. To learn more about the ARA's school initiatives in conjunction with [Project CLEAN](#), visit the [ARA website here.](#)]

Students in search of cleaner and touch-free restrooms:

Since students are becoming increasingly germ conscious, they're paying more attention to their environment. According to the survey, students would like to have access to cleaner restrooms that are stocked more frequently with soap, paper towels and toilet paper, and restrooms that are equipped with completely touchless fixtures with reliable technology.

"While touchless fixtures in restrooms have been growing in popularity for a number of years, the coronavirus outbreak has accelerated that demand," said Jon Dommissie, director of strategy and corporate development for Bradley Corp. "76% of high school students believe it's important that school restrooms have touchless fixtures, while 91% of adults echo that sentiment for access to touchless fixtures in all types of public restrooms." [Read the full release . . .](#)

High School Students & COVID Concerns



63%

WORRY ABOUT
GERMS IN RESTROOMS



58%

NERVOUS ABOUT
RETURNING TO
SCHOOL



48%

BELIEVE THEY WON'T
HAVE ENOUGH TIME
TO WASH THEIR
HANDS DURING THE
SCHOOL DAY



HEALTHY HANDWASHING SURVEY™
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More COVID Advice from the Experts!

A special thank you to Board members, Chad Kaufman of the Public Restroom Company, and Kyle Earlywine (representing PHLUSH) of Green Flush Restrooms for their invaluable expertise and participation. Below you'll find links to their COVID advice found on their respective websites.





3 Steps for Good Hygiene and to Help Stay Safe in any Public Space

Hand Wash or use Hand Sanitizer frequently. DO NOT Touch your Face, Nose, or Mouth with unclean hands!

Social Distance from others, maintain at least 6 feet of space at all times!

Wear a face mask or covering when you can! Main form of transmission for COVID-19 is close person-to-person exposure (within 6 feet) and respiratory droplets in air from an infected person when sneezing, coughing, and/or talking.

The infographic features three circular icons: a hand being washed under a faucet, a hand using a sanitizer bottle, and two people standing apart with a double-headed arrow between them labeled '6 ft'. A small inset image shows three people wearing face masks.

Watch this space for more innovations for both consumer and commercial applications.
Have a new solution? [Contact us!](#)

See what's happening and follow the ARA on our social sites:
Instagram coming soon!



Office Hours: Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET
800-247-3864 or 443-315-5250
getinfo@americanrestroom.org

About American Restroom Association (ARA): a nonprofit founded in 2004, ARA advocates for the availability of clean, safe, and well-designed public restrooms. Accomplishments include successfully advocating for enforcement of and revisions to the International Plumbing Code, congressional testimony on gender equity in public restrooms in US Federal Buildings, and representing the USA in educating international audiences at Summits and Conferences of the World Toilet Organization (WTO). ARA brings together an independent and multidisciplinary team from architecture, engineering, education, academia, and social work. Learn more at <https://americanrestroom.org/>.

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