IS YOUR FACILITY CLOSED FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD?

Re-Opening Reminder:
If your...
- Commercial
- Industrial or
- Institutional

facility was closed due to the Stay Well at Home order, we advise you to flush prior to operating.

DON’T FORGET TO FLUSH THE PIPES!

Water delivered to homes and commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities is safe and has been treated to eliminate any viruses or bacteria. However, stagnant water may be present in building systems that have been dormant for a significant amount of time.

If your building has closed during Ventura County’s Stay Well at Home order, it is important to adopt a proactive approach to flushing water and devices during the prolonged shutdown. Stagnant or standing water can provide conditions that favor Legionella and other biofilm-associated bacteria.

Disinfectants such as chlorine added during the water treatment process will also dissipate over time, and if you have lead pipes, it potentially could leach into stagnant water.

Properly flushing the plumbing before reoccupying these buildings is essential!

Who should Flush?

- Including ALL facilities that have been closed for extended period of time.

Who should Flush?

- Schools
- Businesses
- Restaurants

WHAT TO FLUSH?

Thank you for staying home.
What to Flush?

Flush all hot and cold water fixtures to replace the water within your building’s plumbing with fresh water.

Toilets
Flush each toilet at least twice.

Faucets/Showers
Run cold water at full flow for 2 minutes, then run hot water until it reaches max temperature.

Other Appliances
Flush at full flow to ensure the system contains fresh water. If the appliance has a filter, replace with a fresh filter.

Decorative Water Features
Clean surfaces accordingly. Remove all visible slime or biofilm.

Currently, there are no standard procedures for flushing plumbing after an extended period of inactivity. The recommendations above should be considered the minimum process for flushing building plumbing upon reopening. We recommend reviewing the most current guidance provided by the EPA, CDC, and AWWA. Helpful links can be found below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call the City of Oxnard Water Division at (805) 385-8136 or visit our website at OxnardWater.org

Calleguas Municipal Water District:
(805) 579-7185

EPA’s 3Ts Flushing Best Practices:

CDC’s Guidance for Building Water Systems:

AWWA’s Shutoffs and Return to Service Guidance: