

1

FLUSH THE COLD WATER

Reopening a closed building or facility?

Don't forget to flush the water pipes.

When your building goes unused, the water in your pipes may become stagnant.

Before you reopen, be sure to flush the water that's been sitting in your pipes and replace it with fresh water from the utility system.

Take the proper precautions and keep everyone safe with fresh, high-quality water.



A Remove and clean the filters, screens and aerators from all faucets. Then turn on the **cold water** fully for every faucet in the facility.



B Start on the **lowest floor**, then move to the next highest floor, etc.



C All cold water outlets should be flowing at the **same time** during flushing.



D Flush toilets and urinals **two or three times each**. Don't forget to **flush kitchen sprayers** and **drinking fountains**.



E **Empty the ice** from all ice-makers, then make and **discard two additional batches** of ice.



F After **at least 30 minutes (longer for bigger buildings)**, turn off the faucets and outlets in the same order as you opened them.

2

FLUSH THE HOT WATER



G Turn on the **hot water** and open all hot water outlets, in the **same way** as you opened the cold water outlets.



H Run hot water for **45 minutes** to ensure that all water in the water heater is flushed out.



I Close the outlets in the **same order** as you opened them.



NOTE Water heaters should be set to **at least 120 degrees** to prevent microorganisms from growing.

Virginia Beach business owners and operators seeking additional guidance should contact Virginia Beach Public Utilities at 385-1400 or visit hrpdcva.gov/buildingflushing.