

Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department reminds businesses to flush internal plumbing systems prior to re-openings

To Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department business customers,

The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) has continued to deliver its services uninterrupted throughout the Coronavirus State of Emergency. This includes sampling and testing our drinking water more than 150,000 times a year.

However, because many businesses have been closed during the State of Emergency, water has not been used at those facilities and has remained sitting in their pipes for multiple weeks.

As Miami-Dade County prepares to reopen in stages, WASD is reminding businesses to flush their internal plumbing systems prior to allowing access to the public.

“Stagnant or standing water can cause conditions that increase the risk for growth and spread of Legionella and other biofilm-associated bacteria,” said WASD Director Kevin Lynskey. “WASD continues to operate and provide high quality drinking water to our 2.3 million customers, but our system doesn’t interact with private plumbing systems once the water has been delivered. We want to ensure the safety of your building water system and devices after a prolonged shutdown.”

“The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has produced a set of [guidelines](#) for businesses to follow so that they prepare their plumbing systems and devices before reopening their businesses,” said Samir Elmir, Environmental Administrator for the Department of Health (DOH) in Miami-Dade County.

This includes but is not limited to buildings’ plumbing hot and cold-water systems, cooling towers, hot tubs/pool spas, water heaters, and decorative fountains. Following the CDC guidelines can greatly reduce chances for Legionella and other opportunistic waterborne microbes from developing within plumbing systems and devices.

Businesses owners with questions regarding the CDC recommendations or water quality of their plumbing system can call the DOH at 305-324-2400.

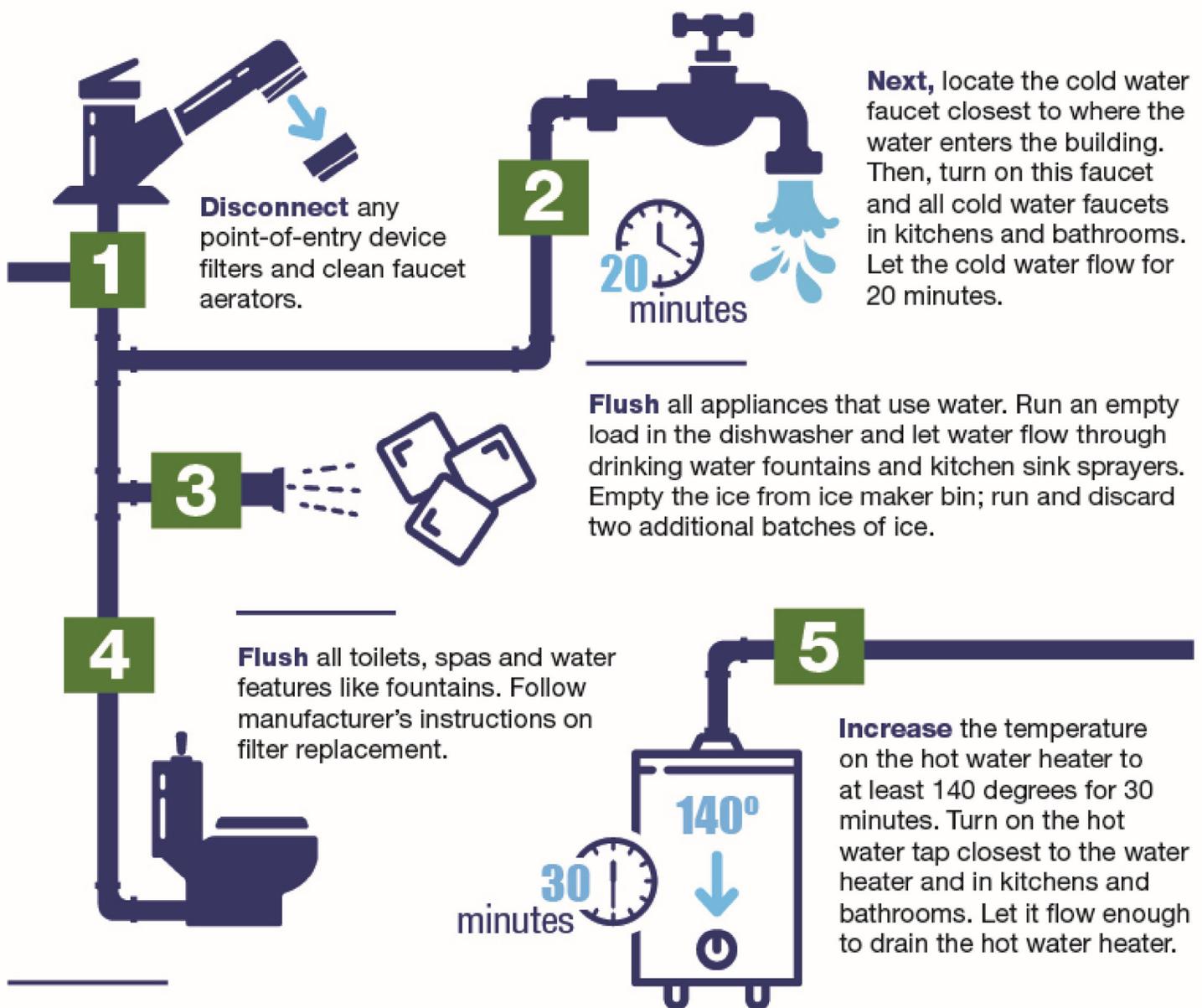
For more information, please click on this link: [Reminder to businesses: flush plumbing systems prior to re-opening.](#)

Has Your Facility Been Closed for Weeks?

Flush the Water Pipes.



The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department delivers drinking water through a network of pipes to your business. After the water flows through a meter, building owners are responsible for maintaining water quality. Flushing the water lines is an easy way to help maintain quality by moving the older water out of the pipes and bringing in fresh, high-quality water.



Remember to turn off all faucets and reset the water heater.