



## **Flush Your Water System Before You Open!**

Your business has been identified as located in Charlottesville, and is a business customer of the City of Charlottesville Utilities. There are important procedures to follow after a prolonged shutdown period before reopening your business and restarting water use in your facility to ensure your building's water system is safe to use.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend the complete flushing of the hot and cold water systems in an unused or underused building to clear stagnant water, which may contain the buildup of biofilm-associated bacteria and the accumulation of undetectable levels of disinfectant.

**[www.charlottesville.gov/utilities](http://www.charlottesville.gov/utilities)**

## To ensure the safety of your water:

- Open all outlets simultaneously to flush the service line and then flush outlets individually starting closest to where the water enters the building. Allow the hot water to reach its maximum temperature. Run enough water through all outlets (hose bibs, faucets, showerheads, toilets etc.), removing aerators if possible.
- Flush cold water lines first, then hot water lines.
- Replace all point-of-use filters, including filters in refrigerators.
- Inspect and flush where appropriate any mechanical equipment that uses water (cooling towers, boilers, pumps, backflow preventers, ice machines, water heaters, decorative water fountains, hot tubs or spas).
- The complete list of procedures can be found at:  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html)

If you or your staff is NOT knowledgeable about how your building's plumbing system works, please consider contacting a plumber for help. Water delivery systems and inside structures beyond the water meter are the responsibility of the business owner.

## Questions?

**Please contact the Charlottesville Department of Utilities at  
434-970-3800.**

**Utilities** 434.970.3800  
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