

SCHOOL DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

RESTORING DRINKING WATER QUALITY IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS



All schools must ensure drinking water quality by performing water system maintenance during extended shutdowns and transitional periods.

Maintenance includes three basic actions:

1. Flushing
2. Filter Replacement
3. Faucet aerator and screen replacement

Flushing - removes stagnant water to:

- Reduce waterborne health risks associated with microbial contamination, lead, copper, and disinfection by-products.
- Reduce drinking water complaints.
- Improve system and water use device function.

The following resources can be found on the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's School Drinking Water website (Michigan.gov/SchoolWater):

- [Checklist for Restoring & Maintaining Water Quality](#)
- [Flushing Guidance for School building Drinking Water Quality Webinar](#)
- [How Do I Start a Building Plumbing Assessment? Informational Video](#)
- [School Flushing Protocol Informational Video](#)
- [School Building Flushing Best Practices \(Fresh Tap Method\)](#)
- [Pre-Flushing Event Guidance for School Plumbing](#)
- [EGLE Guidance for Flushing School Plumbing \(High Velocity Method\)](#)
- [Building Use and Sampling Preparation Flow Chart](#)

Filter and faucet aerators and screens replacement

- Filter replacement to ensure they function to remove specified contaminants.
- Replacing or cleaning aerators and screens removes trapped particles.

Information on filters and aerators can be found at Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe under Drinking Water. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation on changing filters.

Other Resources (Legionella Concerns)

- [Responding to Water Stagnation in Buildings with Reduced or No Water Use](#) (American Water Works Association)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation](#)
- [United States Environmental Protection Agency Guidance](#)

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