



COVID-19 WATER SERVICE GUIDANCE

Drinking Water Utilities Prepare for States to Reopen

As water users such as industrial complexes, business parks, school campuses, shopping malls, hotels, and restaurants plan their reopening, drinking water utilities, in partnership with state and local health agencies, will play an important role. The CDC cautions that standing water can cause the conditions that increase the risk for Legionella and other biofilm-associated bacteria. University researchers across the U.S. are studying these, as well as heavy metals and other public health concerns associated with extended building vacancy. The CDC and American Water Works Association (AWWA) have developed **helpful tools and recommendations for building owners/operators and water utilities.**

Important Resource Links:

AWWA: "Shutoffs and Return to Service Guidelines"

<https://www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Resource-Topics/Coronavirus#10681543-shutoffs-and-return-to-service-guidance>

CDC: "Guidance for Building Water Systems"

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>

STEPS TO CONSIDER



REVIEW THE RESOURCES ABOVE

Every facility and distribution system is unique and requires specific guidance.



START THE CONVERSATIONS

Identify needed outreach and connect to determine best course of action.



CONTACT US

Kleinfelder has both technical and communication resource teams prepared to assist you.

KEY ELEMENTS:

- **PRIOR TO RE-ENTRY:** Some state agencies are prompting building owners/operators to take appropriate steps prior to re-entry into buildings.
- **FLUSHING:** Guidelines are available for both water utility distribution and internal building piping systems.
- **CONTACT LOCAL WATER UTILITY:** The CDC recommends that building owners/operators develop a comprehensive water management plan for their water systems. This is 1 of 8 steps suggested prior to reopening and also includes contact with their local water utility.
- **RAISING AWARENESS:** Water utilities will play an important role with information sharing (i.e. chlorine or chloramine data) and with raising awareness about water quality considerations such as lead and copper.

