



## **Genesee County Drain Commissioner's Office Reminds Returning Commercial Businesses and Residents to Flush Water Systems**

As COVID-19 restrictions are lifted during the next several weeks and months, and out of an abundance of caution, any Properties (Commercial OR Residential) which have gone unused for a significant period of time should take precautionary measures concerning their internal water systems. This applies to all unused facilities, whether they are on the Genesee County Water System, the Great Lakes Water Authority, City of Flint, or other local or private water supply.

### **What is the problem and who does it apply to?**

If water is not used for a long period of time it becomes stagnant in the building plumbing, creating the potential for growth of bacteria in the water. When buildings and homes are vacated for an extended period, the stagnation of water inside a business or home's internal plumbing can lead to water quality deterioration that may be associated with public health risks.

To protect against bacteria growth within internal piping, water suppliers and water experts across the country are recommending business owners, property managers, and residents on any water system follow State and Federal standardized guidelines as they look to reengage idle water systems. By implementing procedures now, you can protect the yourself, your family, and the public, while minimizing the steps needed to safely re-open closed or partially closed facilities.

### **Buildings most at risk are:**

- Commercial Buildings
- Medical and Outpatient Facilities
- Dental Offices
- Eye Surgery Offices
- Hospitality
- Schools / Day Care
- Cultural Buildings
- Primary Care Facilities
- Workout Facilities
- Manufacturing

## **Examples of building water systems that should be addressed as part of a building water management plan:**

- Potable Water Systems (including potable water storage tanks)
- Non-potable Water Systems (including items such as water features/fountains)
- Ice Machines
- Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Filters
- Cooling Towers
- Hot Tubs / Spas
- Pools

## **Guidance for Residential, Commercial, and other Public Internal Water Systems Impacted by Low, or Non-Usage**

It remains critical that residential users on any water system examine Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) instructions on flushing internal water systems, if a home has been vacant or unused for a significant period of time. Commercial business owners and public building managers on any water system are asked to consult guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) relating to best practice standards for water systems when re-opening a structure.

(See attached documentation from EGLE)

(See attached documentation from CDC)



# Who to Contact?

Anyone with questions or concerns related to their commercial business, building, or residence should contact their water supplier.

The following is a helpful contact list for water suppliers in Genesee County.

## WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
City of Burton	(810) 742-9230
City of Clio	(810) 686-5850
City of Davison	(810) 653-2191
City of Fenton	(810) 629-2261
City of Flushing	(810) 659-5665
Genesee Township	(810) 640-2000
City of Grand Blanc	(810) 694-5420
Grand Blanc Township	(810) 424-2640
City of Linden	(810) 735-7980
City of Montrose	(810) 639-6168
City of Mt. Morris	(810) 686-8380
Village of Otisville	(810) 631-4680
City of Swartz Creek	(810) 635-4464

The following Genesee County Water System retail communities should contact 810-793-5123.

Clayton Township	Davison Township
Flint Township	Flushing Township
Gaines Township	Montrose Township
Mt. Morris Township	Mundy Township
Richfield Township	Thetford Township
Vienna Township	

