



RESTORING WATER QUALITY IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Schools that performed water system maintenance prior to the return of students, and during building occupation, have found it beneficial.

Maintenance includes three basic actions:

- Flushing
- Replacing filters
- Replacing or cleaning faucet aerators and screens

1. 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

Where can I get flushing procedure information?

- Go to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy website Michigan.gov/SchoolWater and find the following:
 - *Checklist for Restoring & Maintaining Water Quality* (document)
 - *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)* (document)
 - *Pre-Flushing Event Guidance for School Plumbing* (document)
 - *EGLE Guidance for Flushing School Plumbing (High Velocity Method)* (document)
 - *Building Use and Sampling Preparation Flow Chart* (document)

2. Replacing system or fixture filters and faucet aerators or screens

- Replacing filters ensures function to remove specified contaminants
- Replacing or cleaning aerators and screens removes trapped particles

Where can I get filter & aerator information?

- Go to the State of Michigan website Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe
 - Click on *Drinking Water*
 - View the educational infographics on filters and aerators
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendation on changing filters

3. Other resources available for Legionella concerns

- American Water Works Association
 - www.awwa.org/Portals/0/AWWA/Government/20201001FrameworkforBuildingManagersFINALDistCopy.pdf
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html
- United States Environmental Protection Agency
 - www.epa.gov/coronavirus/information-maintaining-or-restoring-water-quality-buildings-low-or-no-use
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 - [Legionnaires Disease FAQ FINAL 524624 7.pdf \(michigan.gov\)](https://Michigan.gov/Legionnaires_Disease_FAQ_FINAL_524624_7.pdf)