



# WATER SAFETY STEPS FOR REOPENING

## Develop a comprehensive water management program (WMP).

Guidance to help with this process is available from CDC and others.

## Ensure your water heater is properly maintained and the temperature is correctly set.

Determine if the manufacturer recommends draining after a prolonged period of disuse. Ensure maintenance activities are carried out according to manufacturer's instructions or by professionals.

Make sure that your water heater is set to at least 120°F.

## Flush your water system.

Flush hot and cold water through all points of use (e.g., showers, sink faucets).

Flush until the hot water reaches its maximum temperature.

Care should be taken to minimize splashing and aerosol generation during flushing.

Other water-using devices, such as ice machines, may require additional cleaning steps in addition to flushing, such as discarding old ice. Follow water-using device manufacturers' instructions.

## Clean all decorative water features, such as fountains.

Be sure to follow any recommended manufacturer guidelines for cleaning.

Ensure that decorative water features are free of visible slime or biofilm.

After re-filling, measure disinfectant levels to ensure that the water is safe for use.

## Ensure hot tubs/spas are safe for use.

Check for existing guidelines from your local or state regulatory agency before use.

Ensure that hot tubs/spas are free of visible slime or biofilm before filling with water.

Perform a hot tub/spa disinfection procedure before use.

## Ensure cooling towers are clean and well-maintained.

Ensure that cooling towers are maintained (including start-up and shut-down procedures) per manufacturer's guidelines and industry best practices.

Ensure that the tower and basin are free of visible slime, debris, and biofilm before use.

## Ensure safety equipment are clean and well-maintained.

Regularly flush, clean, and disinfect these systems according to manufacturers' specifications.

## Maintain your water system.

Consider contacting your local water utility to learn about any recent water supply disruptions.

Regularly check water quality parameters such as temperature, pH, and disinfectant levels.

Follow your WMP, document activities, and promptly intervene when unplanned deviations arise.

For more information, please visit CDC's website:  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html)