

## Rappahannock Area Health District

### Guidance for Food Establishments Recovery following Water Outage

The following involves the necessary steps for re-opening and returning to a normal safe operation.

*A food establishment that was ordered or otherwise required to cease operations may not re-open until authorization has been granted by the regulatory authority.*

After water service has been restored and after either the municipality or regulatory authority has lifted any "Boiled Water Advisory":

- Flush pipes/faucets: follow the directions from your water municipality such as those via television, radio, newspaper, fax, etc. or, as general guidance, run cold water faucets for at least 5 minutes.
- Equipment with waterline connections such as post-mix beverage machines, spray misters, coffee or tea urns, ice machines, glass washers, dishwashers, and other equipment with water connections must be flushed, cleaned, and sanitized in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Run water softeners through a regeneration cycle.
- Drain reservoirs in tall buildings.
- Change out all filters.
- Flush beverage machines.
- Flush drinking fountains: run continuously for 5 minutes.
- Ice Machine Sanitation:
  - Flush the water line to the machine inlet
  - Close the valve on the water line behind the machine and disconnect the water line from the machine inlet.
    - Open the valve, run 5 gallons of water through the valve and dispose of the water.
  - Close the valve.
  - Reconnect the water line to the machine inlet.
  - Open the valve.
  - Flush the water lines in the machine.
  - Turn on the machine.
  - Make ice for 1 hour and dispose of the first batch of ice.
  - Clean and sanitize all parts and surfaces that come in contact with water and ice, following the manufacturer's instructions.

Food establishments using a Non-Community Water Supply (privately owned well) must follow the disinfection and sampling requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act as found in 40 CFR 141 and 142 (Code of Federal Regulations). Contact your health department for specific instructions.

**If you have any additional questions, please contact your local health department.**

City of Fredericksburg: 540-899-4796

Stafford County: 540-288-9018

Spotsylvania County: 540-507-7386

Caroline County: 804-633-6237

King George County: 540-775-3111