



DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

**James Sylvain, P.E.**  
Public Works Director

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[www.coHB.org](http://www.coHB.org)

May 14, 2020

To Hallandale Beach Public Works Department Customers,

The City of Hallandale Beach Public Works Department (HB DPW) has continued to deliver its services uninterrupted throughout the Coronavirus State of Emergency.

However, because many businesses have been closed during the State of Emergency, water has not been used at those facilities and has remained sitting in their pipes for multiple weeks. As Broward County prepares to reopen in stages, HB DPW is reminding businesses to flush their internal plumbing systems prior to allowing access to the public.

“Stagnant or standing water can cause conditions that increase the risk for growth and spread of Legionella and other biofilm-associated bacteria,” said HB DPW Director James Sylvain. “HB DPW continues to operate and provide high quality drinking water to our customers, but our system doesn’t interact with private plumbing systems once the water has been delivered. We want to ensure the safety of your building water system and devices after a prolonged shutdown.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has produced a set of [guidelines](#) for businesses to follow so that they prepare their plumbing systems and devices before reopening their businesses. Essentially, those guidelines include the following steps:

1. Disconnect any point-of-entry device filters and clean faucet aerators.
2. Locate the cold-water faucet closest to where the water enters the building. Then turn on this faucet and all cold-water faucets in kitchens and bathrooms. Let the cold-water flow for 20 minutes.
3. Flush all appliances that use water. Run an empty load through the dishwasher and let water flow through drinking water fountains and kitchen sink sprayers. Empty the ice from the ice maker bin; run and discard two additional batches of ice.
4. Flush all toilets, spas, and water features like fountains. Follow the manufacturers instructions on filter replacement.
5. Increase the temperature on the hot water heater to at least 140 degrees for 30 minutes. Turn on the hot water tap closest to the water heater and in kitchens and bathrooms. Let it flow enough to drain the hot water heater.
6. Once you’ve finished all the steps above, turn off all your faucets and reset your water heater.

Following the CDC guidelines can greatly reduce chances for Legionella and other opportunistic waterborne microbes from developing within plumbing systems and devices.

Businesses owners with questions regarding the CDC recommendations or water quality of their plumbing system can call the Broward County Department of Health at (954) 847-8039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JS', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

James Sylvain, P.E.  
Hallandale Beach Public Works Director

