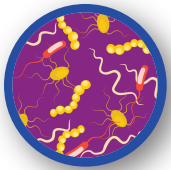




# Maintaining Safe Facilities: Water Quality

Safe drinking water is essential to a healthy learning environment.



## **Avoid the dangers of stagnant water.**

Over weeks of disuse, stagnant water in plumbing may support the growth of bacteria. It may also cause metals to leach from pipes, resulting in dangerous levels of lead and copper.



## **Work with your water professionals.**

Before re-opening, work with water professionals to ensure that water is safe for re-entry.



## **Inspect all faucets.**

Be sure to remove and clean aerators.



## **Conduct a facility-wide flushing of all faucets.**

Start with the faucets closest to where water enters the building and move toward the farthest tap. Once flushing is complete, remember to replace clean aerators.



## **Inspect and maintain water treatment systems.**

Check filters and water softeners, following manufacturer's instructions.



## **Check with your regulatory agency.**

Follow required and recommended actions, including testing, to ensure safe water quality for children and staff. If your facility is served by a private well, inspect the well components annually.



## **Develop a water management program.**

Ensure the safety of your water and plumbing system. Set up a calendar with regular inspections throughout the year.

**See videos and learn more at: [dhs.wi.gov/safekeeping](https://dhs.wi.gov/safekeeping)**



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