



What You Can Do After the Salem Drinking Water Advisory is Lifted

July 3, 2018

Do I need to flush my faucets?

Flushing is not recommended at this time. The City of Salem has not detected cyanotoxins in its water for 12 days. Potentially contaminated water has likely been flushed out of pipes by now.

Why was flushing recommended when the first drinking water advisory was lifted, but not now?

When the previous advisory was lifted, the amount of cyanotoxins in the water were above health advisory levels just a few days before. Potentially contaminated water may not have been flushed through the drinking water system during that period. People were asked to run water through their pipes to make sure potentially contaminated water was flushed from the system.

Do I need to clean my appliances – like refrigerators, ice makers– and water filters?

For refrigerator water dispensers and ice makers- that are connected to your waterline- and other water filters, consult your equipment's owner's manual for cleaning instructions. No flushing is needed. Any ice made two or more weeks ago should not be used by vulnerable populations.

NOTE: Food service providers do not need to do anything to their ice machines. Any ice made two or more weeks ago should not be used by vulnerable populations. Food service providers with questions are encouraged to call Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) Environmental Health (EH) at 503-588-5346 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. MCHHS-EH will be closed for the 4th of July holiday.