When preparing to reopen your business or facility after a building closing, stagnant water poses an increased risk of Legionella and other waterborne pathogens. Follow these 5 steps to help ensure water safety during the reopening process.

1. **Map Your Plumbing System**
   - Identify low-use water outlets and map out your flushing regime. Going zone by zone, start at the outlet nearest the water supply and proceed to the most distal outlets.

2. **Flushing & Cleaning**
   - **Initial Flush**: Initial flushing and cleaning must be completed before resuming normal building operations. The sooner you start flushing the better. If possible, have staff start flushing now, even if the building’s reopening date is still unknown. The earlier a flushing regime is initiated means an earlier recovery to normal water quality.
   - **Sequenced Flushing**: The sooner you start flushing the better. If possible, have staff start flushing now, even if the building’s reopening date is still unknown.
   - **Clean F&E**: The earlier a flushing regime is initiated means an earlier recovery to normal water quality.
   - **Test & Monitor**: Monitoring and testing for Legionella, other bacteria, and disinfectant concentration is the only way to know the health of your plumbing system.

3. **Monitor & Test**
   - Before reopening, inspect all plumbing and mechanical equipment.
   - Disinfect all equipment and fixtures.
   - Follow manufacturer guidelines.
   - Contact proper authorities when required.

4. **Recommissioning**
   - **Initial Flush**: Initial flushing and cleaning must be completed before resuming normal building operations.
   - **Sequenced Flushing**: The sooner you start flushing the better. If possible, have staff start flushing now, even if the building’s reopening date is still unknown.
   - **Clean F&E**: The earlier a flushing regime is initiated means an earlier recovery to normal water quality.
   - **Test & Monitor**: Monitoring and testing for Legionella, other bacteria, and disinfectant concentration is the only way to know the health of your plumbing system.

5. **Maintain Your System**
   - **Initial Flush**: Initial flushing and cleaning must be completed before resuming normal building operations. The sooner you start flushing the better. If possible, have staff start flushing now, even if the building’s reopening date is still unknown.
   - **Sequenced Flushing**: The sooner you start flushing the better. If possible, have staff start flushing now, even if the building’s reopening date is still unknown.
   - **Clean F&E**: The earlier a flushing regime is initiated means an earlier recovery to normal water quality.
   - **Test & Monitor**: Monitoring and testing for Legionella, other bacteria, and disinfectant concentration is the only way to know the health of your plumbing system.

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**For the most effective flushing...**

- Fully open valves
- Remove all aerators
- Add valves back to normal
- Replace outlets if vulnerable populations have access
- If not, replace screens prior to reinstallation

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**NOTICE:** This infographic is provided for your individual use. Watts makes no representations that this infographic accounts for all issues that must be considered when reopening commercial buildings post COVID-19. Watts expressly disclaims any liability regarding the sufficiency of any reopening strategy made in conjunction with the use of this infographic.