

School Building Flushing Guidance: Flushing Directions by Outlet Type

The following guidance is based on an excerpt from the EPA document "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance" EPA Document # 816-B-05-008, October 2006 (Revised) Office of Water (4606)

Please make sure that each water outlet (e.g. water fountain, kitchen sink, bathroom sink, etc.) is flushed individually.

- Locate the faucet furthest away from the service line on each wing and floor of the building, turn the faucets open all the way, and let the water run for 10 minutes. For best results, if you know how to calculate the volume of the plumbing and the flow rate at the tap, you can adjust the flushing time accordingly (however, this 10-minute time frame is considered adequate for most school buildings).
- Open valves at all drinking water fountains that don't have refrigeration units and let the water run for roughly 30 seconds to one minute, or until cold.
- For refrigerated water fountains, let the water run for 15 minutes.
- Open all faucets (e.g. kitchen sinks, bathroom sinks, health room sinks, etc.) and let the water run for 30 seconds to one minute, or until cold.