Campus Water Quality Notification

This notice is intended to provide guidance regarding campus water quality and how it’s been affected due to the unprecedented amount of inactivity associated with the Coronavirus crisis. We will discuss how we are ensuring campus has safe drinking water, and we will provide recommendations for what you can do to protect yourselves as we increase occupation in campus buildings.

Campus Planning and Facilities Management (CPFM) and Auxiliary Departments are maintaining staff presence within most of our buildings. These staff are completing general custodial work, maintenance projects, and responding to issues as they normally do. Flushing of water systems has been added to their daily work. This helps keep our main supply piping clear and disinfected. As we get closer to a return to occupied buildings on campus, these efforts will increase and will be bolstered by more concerted flushing efforts. Additionally, Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) continues working with CPFM and Auxiliary Departments to test water quality in building water systems as we prepare for the gradual return of students, staff & faculty to campus. This testing regime further informs and drives Facilities’ flushing and maintenance processes.

Additionally, EHS provides the following recommendations to employees working on campus.

- Obtain drinking or cooking water from fixtures intended for that purpose. Laboratory sinks, hose bibs, and other industrial fixtures are not intended for drinking or cooking.

- Flush all water fixtures that have been unused for several days / weeks for several minutes prior to use for drinking and cooking. A good rule of thumb is a 10-minute flush when believing the plumbing system has sat unused for an extended period of time, and a 5 to 10-second flush in routine conditions.

- Contact EHS and your Facilities Maintenance Departments if you have questions or concerns regarding water quality. Contact information is indicated below:
  - EHS – 6-3192, email: EHSinfo@uoregon.edu
  - CPFM – 6-2319, email: workcontrolcenter@uoregon.edu
  - Housing – 6-3477, email: houfaccs@uoregon.edu
  - Athletics – 6-4435, email: aclinton@uoregon.edu
  - SRC – 6-8993, email: weaver@uoregon.edu
  - EMU – 6-6116, email: chadw@uoregon.edu