

Water Break/Outage

Water outages can occur due to a number of causes including street work and water line failures. Water outages can create a variety of problems including the lack of sanitary facilities, lack of firefighting capabilities, and cancellation of meetings or other events.

Definitions:

Boil Water notices issued by authorities do not require alternative water sources.

Do Not Drink orders designate suspect water is safe to use for activities that do not involve ingestion of the water. In this situation, it will only be necessary to provide an alternate drinking water supply for consumption and related activities such as food preparation.

Do Not Use orders are the most restrictive. Alternate water sources to supply water for consumption, hygiene, and emergency needs.

Updated

August 8, 2011

Source

U-M Plant Operations

City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment Services

More Information

<http://www.plantops.umich.edu/>

http://www.a2gov.org/government/publicservices/water_treatment/Pages/default.aspx

Prevention / Mitigation / Preparedness - Water Break/Outage

Work with the University OSEH department (647-1143) and request guidance as necessary on what to do if storm drains are affected or boil water advisories are in place.

Identify agencies or private companies that could provide water supplies (bottled or bulk) in the event of a major event. The following are examples of suppliers:

Contact Plant Operations (647-2059) for assistance if water break / outage occur.

Contact 911 and advise DPSS of the event and what may have caused it.

If the water break is occurring on the outside of the building, remember that storm drains should not be blocked. OSEH will determine, on scene, if catch basin inlet filters are appropriate for use during water main break events.

Establish a three deep system of personnel located at the affected building and provide training on how to turn off water flow valves to prevent water damage from occurring.

Determine how information on the event (including updates) will be obtained and delivered to building occupants. Unless an emergency exists, do not call 911. Signs may need to be posted in common areas to notify occupants what to do.

Educate staff, students and faculty on what to do during a water break / outage event.

Identify areas of refuge (in building and out of building) for evacuation purposes

Response – Water Break/Outage

Activate your building floor marshal system to ensure all persons in the affected area / building are in a safe location and aware of what to do.

Remain in the building / affected area unless directed to do so by the authorities

If necessary, implement the appropriate emergency procedures (i.e., evacuation - classroom/area) to ensure that students are not exposed to danger.

Should the affected area be flooded, use caution to avoid any unnecessary accidents.

Recovery – Water Break / Outage

If the building sustained damage, contact Plant Operations (734) 647-2059 for assistance.

Contact University Risk Management (734)764-2200 so claims management and other insurance matters can be handled.