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PRESS RELEASE

TO: Marquette County Media

FROM: Marquette County Health Department

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DATE: May 28, 2020

SUBJECT: Guidance for Reopening Buildings after Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation

COVID-19 has caused many businesses to reduce operations or shut down their buildings completely for a prolonged period of time.

As businesses and other places of work begin to open, the Marquette County Health Department (MCHD) is encouraging building managers not only to implement best practices for COVID-19 prevention of spread, but also to evaluate other potential hazards, including stagnant, unsafe drinking water.

Stagnant water lines within buildings may result in the growth of pathogenic bacteria that can cause illnesses including Legionnaire's Disease. Elevated levels of metals having negative health effects, such as lead and copper, may also occur when water lines remain unused.

To help ensure a safe and healthy work environment as building re-open, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated their online [Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation](#).

For more information and guidance regarding re-opening your business, please visit www.mqthealth.org.

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