

AFTER THE FLOOD: RESTAURANTS



FACT SHEET

All restaurants affected by floodwaters MUST be inspected PRIOR to reopening. For more information, call CCHD at 454-6950 and ask to speak with an Environmental Health Sanitarian.

The following guidelines will help you clean up your facility to prepare for reopening:

1. Clean the building safely!
 - Wear rubber boots, gloves, goggles, and coveralls
 - Wear a mask for mold protection
2. Remove sewage, solids, and water.
 - Scrub with a brush and soap
 - Rinse and then sanitize floors and walls
 - Dry quickly with fans
3. Clean all food handling and storage equipment.
 - Clean all hard surfaces with soap and water
 - Rinse and sanitize before use
 - Clean mixers, ice machines, etc.
4. Discard damaged building items.
 - Discard all porous contaminated items that cannot be cleaned

When flooding occurs and food has been contaminated by flood or wastewater, the following precautions should be taken:

1. Throw away any and all food that may have come in contact with flood or wastewater.
2. Throw away any food that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.
3. Throw away perishable foods (including meat, milk, poultry, fish, and eggs) that have been above 41°F for more than 2 hours.
4. Frozen food that contains ice crystals and is 41°F or below can be refrozen or cooked unless contaminated by flood or wastewater.
5. Canned goods may be salvaged, but a plan must be submitted to local health officials and the product must be moved until approved.
6. Cans must be re-labeled.
7. Dispose of food containers with screw caps, snap-lids, crimped caps (soda pop bottles), twist caps, and caps that snap open that may have been contaminated by the flood or wastewater.
8. Do not use contaminated water in icemakers, coffee makers, or soda pop dispensers.
9. Do not use contaminated water to wash and prepare food or to wash hands before preparing or eating food.



For more information, contact CCHD's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program at 452-0881 x310 or visit www.cchdmt.org or www.cdc.gov.