

	<b>West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources</b>				
	<b>MANUAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES</b>				
Section	Housing / Institution	Date	January 14, 2008	Procedure #	H-10
Subject	School Closings Due to Water Outages			Page	1 of 1

Water outages at schools have plagued Environmental Health personnel for many years. When a Local Health Department Sanitarian becomes aware of a water outage at a school, he/she should determine the nature and extent of the outage and immediately advise the county Board of Education or the school Principal of appropriate actions.

Cleaning of restrooms, hot lunch equipment, and similar facilities is virtually impossible during a water outage. The school should be closed after a maximum of four (4) hours without running water under pressure.

Additionally, Environmental Health Procedures Memoranda [DW-18, Guidance for Public Facilities Affected by Boil Water Notices](#), and [DW-23, Boil Water Notices](#), should be reviewed for applicable recommendations and required actions.

The local health department has the responsibility for ensuring schools are closed in accordance with this memorandum.

References

[DW-18, Guidance for Public Facilities Affected by Boil Water Notices](#)  
[DW-23, Boil Water Notices](#)

History

Attachments