

If flooding in your area has caused contamination and shutdown of municipal and private water systems, here's how to manage cleaning of equipment and startup of beverage service using Everpure precoat filter systems:

**Obeying "Boil Orders":** Obey them. Contamination due to flooding is not like contamination with *Cryptosporidium* or *Giardia* cysts. Floods involve bacteria and viruses in addition to parasites, and our precoat fine-filters are certified only for removing cysts, not bacteria and viruses. Everpure filter users should boil their water like everyone else until the "all clear" has been given and the filter cartridges have been replaced.

**Cleanup:** When safe water is again available, all water-using equipment should be sanitized with an approved disinfectant, such as diluted chlorine bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite). The recommended concentration is 100-200 mg/L chlorine, which is easy to make. Fresh bleach has about 50 mg of chlorine in each mL, or about 500 mg in a capful. Four capfuls or an ounce in a 2-1/2 gallon bucket makes about 200 mg/L. This solution should be used to clean exposed surfaces.

Unexposed, interior surfaces can be sanitized with the aid of the Everpure Flushing Cartridge (#9608-00). This is an empty filter cartridge which can be filled with any cleaning or sanitizing solution and then be inserted into the filter head at the site. When water flow is resumed, the cleaning solution will be fed into the plumbing and the equipment. When strong chlorine smell is evident throughout the equipment and in the effluent, the water flow should be stopped and the sanitizing solution left to soak for at least 30 minutes. Finally, the Flushing Cartridge is removed and fresh filter cartridges installed before rinsing out the equipment.

**Filter Use:** Flooding produces muddy water that is difficult to treat properly, and some waterworks may be unable to maintain their usual level of water clarity once they get going again. Chlorination levels will also probably be higher than usual, so reliable fine-filtration and taste and odor control will be needed even more than ever. However, the more turbid the water, the faster the cartridges will clog and need replacement. For the next few weeks and months extensive areas will be affected by the flood waters, and there may be unusual and unpredictable demand for replacement cartridges. It might be prudent for dealers and managers in the affected areas to increase their inventory of cartridges in anticipation.