



Onondaga County Health Department

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Main Break Categories, Repairs, and Public Health Provisions

TYPE 1 BREAK	TYPE 2 BREAK	TYPE 3 BREAK	TYPE 4 BREAK
Positive Pressure maintained during break	Positive Pressure maintained during break	Loss of Pressure at break site/local system (i.e., not widespread*) depressurized (<20 psi)	Catastrophic Event: Loss of Pressure at break site/widespread* depressurization (<20 psi)
Excavate to below break	Excavate to below break	Excavate to below break	Shut off customer services in affected area
Dewater and maintain pit water level below break before repair begins	Dewater and maintain pit water level below break before repair begins	Dewater and maintain pit water level below break before repair begins. If not possible, shut off customer services in affected area.	Excavate to below break
Disinfect repair parts per AWWA C651	Disinfect repair parts per AWWA C651	Disinfect repair parts per AWWA C651	Dewater and maintain pit water level below break before repair begins
Repair under pressure	Controlled shutdown: Pressure maintained until break is exposed	Partial or uncontrolled shutdown	Disinfect repair parts per AWWA C651
No signs of contamination intrusion	No signs of contamination intrusion	Possible contamination intrusion – documentation required	Catastrophic Failure Response: Partial or uncontrolled shutdown
Conduct unidirectional low velocity flush (flush minimum of three times the pipe volume)	Conduct unidirectional low velocity flush (flush minimum of three times the pipe volume)	Conduct unidirectional scouring flush (5 ft/sec)	Possible/actual contamination intrusion – documentation required
Check chlorine residual disinfectant levels at the break site	Check chlorine residual disinfectant levels at the break site	Services off - conduct slug chlorination (CT of 100 mg/L-min)	Conduct slug chlorination (CT of 100 mg/L-min)
Instruct customers to flush premise plumbing upon return to service i.e. run cold water minimum of 15 min. or until water is clear	Instruct customers to flush premise plumbing upon return to service i.e. run cold water minimum of 15 min. or until water is clear	Check chlorine residual disinfectant levels at the break site	Check chlorine residual disinfectant levels at the break site
No Boil Water Order (BWO)/Boil Water Advisory (BWA)	No BWO/BWA	Instruct customers to flush premise plumbing upon return to service i.e. run cold water minimum of 15 min. or until water is clear	Instruct customers to flush premise plumbing upon return to service i.e. run cold water minimum of 15 min. or until water is clear
No bacteriological samples are required	No bacteriological samples are required	BWO/BWA subject to review and determination by the Health Department	Issue BWO/BWA
		Bacteriological samples subject to review and determination by the Health Department	2 Consecutive days of Bacteriological sampling required

* Widespread – impacts a minimum of 25 individuals or 15 service connections

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