



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON RHEINLAND-PFALZ
UNIT 23152
APO AE 09067-3152

AMIM-RPP-E

5/10/23

MEMORANDUM FOR Occupants of Family Housing and Barracks Buildings within the United States Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz (USAG RP) Area of Responsibility (AoR) concerning Flushing Procedures for Drinking Water Lines

SUBJECT: Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) for Flushing Building Water Lines of Family Housing and Barracks Buildings

1. References:

a. Environmental Final Governing Standards – Germany (GFGS, DoD, Chapter 3, Revision 6, August 2016)

b. TrinkwV – Trinkwasserverordnung, German Drinking Water Ordinance, Last Revision 22 September 2021

c. DVGW W 1001, German Technical Regulation, Security of Drinking Water Supply - Risk and Crisis Management, Version November 2020

d. DVGW W 551, German Technical Regulation, Drinking Water Heating and Drinking Water Piping Systems - Technical Measures to Reduce Legionella Growth - Design, Construction, Operation and Rehabilitation of Drinking Water installations, Version April 2004

e. DVGW W 551-2, German Technical Regulation, Hygiene in Potable Water Installations - Part 2: Hygienic-microbial Irregularities - Methods and Measures to Remedy, Version August 2022,

2. Purpose. To provide guidance and procedures for flushing dwelling unit building water lines by occupants to prevent and reduce water stagnation and risks, like Legionella bacteria occurrence or brown water formation.

3. Applicability. All occupants of dwellings within USAG-RP.

4. Background. Domestic drinking water systems are the most critical points in which water quality may be affected. Temperature and water stagnation affect both chemical and microbial quality of the drinking water. Periodic flushing of underutilized water supply lines is necessary to avoid volatilizing of chlorine and to help reduce stagnation of water. Stagnant water can result in formation of brown water, accumulation of particles or growth of Legionella bacteria and other microbes.

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5. Responsibilities and Procedures.

a. Directorate of Public Works (DPW). DPW is responsible for DoD public water systems and is also required to establish and maintain bacteriological monitoring and operational monitoring programs in accordance with German Final Governing Standards. Periodic flushing of underutilized water supply lines as well as maintenance of piping system in all buildings is within the responsibility of DPW.

b. Housing Division. Distribute this SOP to all occupants of family housing buildings at time of moving in.

c. Tennant unit commands. Distribute this SOP to all occupants within their area of responsibility.

d. Occupants.

(1) Only clear, fresh water should be used for drinking, cooking or food preparation. Before use, let the water run until the water is cold, approximately 30 seconds.

(2) When absent from your apartment for more than 24 hours, flush the toilet and let warm and cold water on all outlets run for approximately 2 minutes.

(3) Report any drinking water deficiencies with a Service Order:

(a) DSN 483-7175 or +49(0)631-411-7175 (Kaiserslautern area).

(b) DSN 531-3060 or +49(0)611-143-531-3060 (Baumholder Military Community).

6. The point of contact for this SOP is Mr. Hans-Karl Betzhold, DPW, Chief Environmental Management Division (EMD) at DSN: 541-4737, email: hanskarl.betzhold.ln@army.mil and Mr. Gerd Mueller, DPW, Chief Operations and Maintenance Division (OMD) at DSN: 541-4792, email: gerd.mueller.ln@army.mil.

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Encl 1: List of POCs

Enclosure to Memo:

“Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) for Flushing Building Water Lines of Family Housing and Barracks Buildings”

Kaiserslautern Area

- Ms. Anja Goering, DPW, Environmental Management Division (EMD) at DSN: 541-4704, email: anja.goering.ln@army.mil
- Mr. Gerd Mueller, DPW, Chief Operations and Maintenance Division (OMD), at DSN: 541-4792, email: gerd.mueller.ln@army.mil

Baumholder Military Community

- Ms. Lilia Theiss, DPW, EMD at DSN: 531-3120, email: lilia.theiss.ln@army.mil
- Mr. Pascal Koenig, DPW, OMD at DSN: 531-3081, email: pascal.koenig.ln@army.mil