



Recovering from Flood and/or Structural Damage

If your establishment floods and/or has structural damage due to a storm or a fire, the Houston Permitting Center will work with you to reopen your business as quickly as possible. **You will need to repair any damage swiftly and correctly.** Please note that failure to follow the required procedures may result in having the work redone or result in costly issues such as mold removal. Requirements to reopen will be dependent upon the extent of damage and the amount of work needed as outlined below.

MINOR DAMAGE

The damage is limited to contaminated equipment and interior surfaces (walls, flooring, windows, etc.). The interior finishes and equipment will be restored to pre-storm "like to like" conditions (ex., 6-burner stove replaced with a 6-burner stove).

Visit the Houston Permitting Center. Fill out a form documenting what happened and what needs to be done. For example: "Water damage due to flood. Tear out and replace sheetrock to 12 inches above water line. All equipment will be cleaned and sanitized. Finishes (paint, flooring, etc.) to be replaced as it was before damage (including same colors)." A determination will be made at that time whether other departments will need to be involved, if any, besides the Health Department.

Schedule a pre-opening inspection upon completion of the work. A pre-opening inspection is required before any food operations may begin at your establishment. If plans are not required, there is no Health Department fee for any repair work that is performed although fees may be applied by other departments.

MAJOR DAMAGE

The damage is structural and requires reconstruction such as a roof replacement or the rebuilding of an exterior wall. The approval process for rebuilding also applies to any remodeling activities. You will need to submit plans and purchase a building permit.

Visit the Permitting Center 1002 Washington, Houston 77002 (832)394-8810 8 am-4:30 pm

<https://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/>

For more information on plan submission, refer to

www.houstonconsumer.org

Call the Houston Health Department Bureau of Consumer Health Services at (832) 393-5100 to schedule a pre-opening inspection upon completion of the work. A pre-operational inspection fee will be applied.

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