

Distribution Equipment

Panel boards, switchboards and switches that have been exposed to water damage from hydrants may be reused if they are cleaned and dried by qualified personnel before equipment is energized. If the panel was submerged under flood water should be replaced entirely.

Stand-by generators, UPS or transfer switches are required to be tested by the manufacturer's representative to ensure proper operation.

In addition any smoke residue shall also be removed by cleaning to prevent tracking and equipment failure.

Breakers and Receptacles

For both flood and hydrant water damage all breakers, fuses, fuse holders, switches, receptacles and thermostats must be replaced. In particular breakers and receptacles should be destroyed, so that they are not mistakenly reused, ex: by hammer. The Inspector may ask for confirmation that this has taken place or ask for evidence.

Common Household Items

Where electrical appliances have been exposed to water damage, the customer should consult with their electrician or a service technician to determine if the equipment needs to be replaced or what would be required in order to make the equipment usable before energizing.

Normally items such as toasters, toaster ovens, TVs, stereos, DVD/VCR, hair dryers, computers etc. should be replaced.

Life Safety Items

If any life saving equipment, such as smoke alarms, receives water damage where water has been running through/in or on top of, shall be replaced. Any smoke alarms or emergency lights must be reviewed and tested by a qualified person prior to being installed back in service. Fire alarm systems that are replaced or have parts replaced are required to be retested by qualified personnel.

Note: The homeowner should always consult with their insurance company prior to disposing of equipment.

General

The customer should have an electrical contractor check all electrical equipment that has received water damage before equipment is re-energized, i.e. panel boards, breakers, fuses, lighting fixtures, receptacles, cables and appliances.

Electrical contractors shall ensure that electrical equipment which has been exposed to water damage is either replaced or has been cleaned and dried before equipment is energized. Note: fuses, breakers and receptacles that have been subjected to water damage must be replaced.

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