

Overview of Restoration and Reopening of Chapel Hill Businesses After the Flood

If your business DID NOT sustain any damage to the structure OR systems (electrical, gas, heating/cooling, or plumbing) and you are just cleaning up:

What you need from the Town of Chapel Hill: You can reopen, no permits or approvals from the Building & Development Services Department are needed.




Food Service Establishments:

What you need from the Orange County Health Department: Restaurants will need to connect with OC Health Dept prior to opening to ensure any suspended permits are reinstated. This is for restaurants with **existing** permits for food service.

Contact Information: ehapplications@orangecountync.gov or call 919-245-2361.

If your business DID sustain any damage to the structure AND/OR systems (electrical, gas, heating/cooling, or plumbing):

 **If you sustained significant water levels such as water reaching electrical outlets you have sustained electrical damage and will need to follow the below process. Damage will need to be repaired in order to resume power service from your provider Duke Energy.**

Completing Town of Chapel Hill Permits & Approvals:

A contractor can start to assess your business' restoration needs and begin work immediately. They must follow up and start the permitting process detailed below **within three days**. Completed work should remain uncovered for inspections.

a. Standard Building Permit Application and required documentation

- Indicate **FLOOD** in the permit description so staff will know what this is concerning and prioritize this permit.
- All questions and required documentation are listed in the permit record on the portal.
- [Online Permit Portal](#)

b. Plans

- Hand drawing (or better) of floorplan for building(s) impacted.
- Cloud where damage has occurred (could be whole building) and where the area of work is being proposed.

c. Scope of Work

- Describe the water level depth and what was impacted by the water.
- Describe what is needed to return the building/business back to an operational condition.
- For expedited processing, the building needs to go back as it was. Any new upgrades will be treated like a new construction project, requiring full plans complying with current codes including fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems upgrades.

Example of work scope- 123 E Main St received 32 inches of flood water. New non-rated walls will be made of 26-gauge metal studs and 5/8" inch sheetrock or concrete board. New tile flooring will be installed after cleanup. Replace R-15 insulation in exterior and separation walls. All electrical boxes and wiring that got wet will be replaced with outlets reinstalled at least 18" above the floor. Toilet will be removed to replace floor. New HVAC unit will be installed as it was damaged by flood waters. New paint throughout.

Town Permit Contact Information:

919-968-2718 or permits@townofchapelhill.org

If your restaurant requires new appliances due the damage, a new fire suppression permit through the Fire Marshal's office will be required as the cooking suppression system will require new engineering.

Note: Eastgate businesses may not have individual fire panels and should verify with property management if restoration work is needed for fire suppression systems.

Fire Department Contact Information:

(919) 968-2781 or firemarshalls@townofchapelhill.org.



Food Service Establishments:

Restaurants will need to connect with OC Health Dept prior to opening to ensure any suspended permits are reinstated. This is for restaurants with **existing** permits for food service. If you are making changes from your original application materials, you should contact OC Health prior to work beginning.

Contact Information: ehapplications@orangecountync.gov or call 919-245-2361.

Utility Information

Other utility services to your business may have been shut off as part of initial storm response for public safety. Please contact your individual utility provider for re-establishing connection.

Power Provider: Duke Energy

If you sustained significant water levels such as water reaching electrical outlets, boxes, and or panels you have sustained electrical damage. Damage will need to be repaired in order to resume service and upon passed electrical inspection, your licensed electrician can contact Duke Energy below.

Business Service Line: 866-582-6345

Water Provider: OWASA Water

Customer Service Contact: (919) 537-4343

After Business Hours: [\(919\) 968-4421](tel:9199684421)

Gas Provider: Enbridge

Customer Service Contact: [1-877-776-2427](tel:18777762427)