Emergency Shower and Eyewash Activation and Flushing

The American National Standard for Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment, ANSI Z358.1-2014, states that "Plumbed emergency showers and eyewashes shall be activated weekly for a period long enough to verify operation and ensure that flushing fluid is available." The intent is to ensure that there is a flushing fluid supply at the head of the device and to clear the supply line of any sediment build-up that could prevent fluid from being delivered to the head of the device and minimize microbial contamination due to sitting water.

Procedure for Emergency Eyewash (Perform weekly)

1. Locate floor drain. Use plastic tray to catch the water if the drain pipe does not extend to the floor drain or connect directly to an outgoing pipe.
2. Protect nearby objects from getting sprayed. These include electrical objects or personal items that you do not wish to become wet.
3. Gently push back the lever to begin water flow.
4. Allow water to flow until flowing water is clear.
5. Record the date on the emergency eyewash activation and flushing log.

Procedure for Emergency Shower (If combined with eyewash unit that is flushed weekly: perform every 3 months for old and every 6 months for new installations. **If a standalone safety shower, activate and flush weekly**)

1. Locate the safety shower water shut-off valve. Verify that the valve can be opened and closed easily.
2. Ensure that there are no electrical equipment and other items near the safety shower.
3. Cover equipment and other items that may potentially be reached by water spray.
4. Pull lever or chain to activate the safety shower for 15 seconds or until the flowing water is clear.
5. Push lever back to stop water flow. For safety shower activated by chains, the safety shower will stop after releasing 5 gallons of water.
6. Record the date on the emergency shower activation and flushing log.