



Approximately April through October each year is the flushing season for water distribution systems. This includes MU flushing hydrants and businesses conducting fire flow tests. During flushing customers may experience a drop in water pressure or discolored water. Discolored water occurs from naturally accumulating minerals in water that are disrupted due to abnormal flow. It is normal and temporary; however, it does stain clothing!

Why are Hydrants Flushed?

MU flushes hydrants throughout the city on a rotating annual schedule to clear settled iron and other minerals from the water mains. This helps to improve water clarity and appearance.

Scheduled flushing maintenance allows for the inspection of hydrants and reduces occurrences of discolored water if there is an increased demand for water. For example, an unexpected demand increase to put out a structure fire.

What is A Fire Flow Test?

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Is The Water Safe To Use While Flushing?

Yes, the water is safe to drink and use while hydrants are being flushed. However, discolored water can stain clothing. We advise not to wash any clothing during flushing and verify that the water is clear before using the washing machine, even after an event is complete.

What Do I Do if My Water is Discolored?

If you are experiencing discolored water, turn on the cold water tap on the lowest level of your home. Run the water for several minutes until it clears. If your water does not clear; call us at 715-387-1195 during office hours, or after hours at 715-384-8515.