



Fire Hydrant Flushing

Why Flush Fire Hydrants?

The city flushes fire hydrants to clean out iron deposits in the water lines, to verify the hydrants are working properly, and to assure continued high quality drinking water. Fire hydrant flushing also provides the Fire and Water Departments with valuable information about water volume and fire flow.



What Takes Place During Fire Hydrant Flushing?

During the testing process, a city operator opens each hydrant to its maximum flow. The flow stirs up iron deposits and settlements and removes them from the system. The operator cleans and lubricates accessible operating parts, checks the operation of the hydrant and valve, and records any deficiencies for repair.

How Often Are Hydrants Flushed?

The city flushes the entire system once a year, generally beginning in June. Before testing, fire hydrant flushing schedules are published in the Record Courier Newspaper and on the city's web page. Businesses that may be adversely affected by the testing, such as doctor's offices, restaurants, and hair salons, receive the schedule by mail or in person.

Will Hydrant Flushing Affect Your Water?

During the flushing process, you may experience some water discoloration, especially when work is being done in your immediate neighborhood. Once the hydrant flushing is complete, the water quality will return to normal.

What Precautions Should You Take?

Before doing laundry or other projects that may suffer from discolored water, make sure the water is running clear. It's also a good idea to keep a pitcher of clean water in the refrigerator.

What If I Still Get Rust Stains?

Call the City Maintenance Division at (330) 673-1688 and they can provide a chemical agent that can help wash out the rust.