

HYDRANT FLUSHING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why does the water system need to be routinely flushed?

A: The water distribution system is a complex network of pipes and storage tanks where sediment or deposits may naturally accumulate over time. If not removed, these materials may cause water quality deterioration, taste and odor problems, or discoloration of the water. Water may also stagnate in lesser used parts of the distribution system. This can result in degraded water quality.

Q. When does flushing normal occur?

A. Normally, flushing takes place during early spring. Crews flush the lines between the hours of 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Q. What should I do when I see crews flushing hydrants in my area?

A. If you see a crew flushing hydrants, PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY.

Q. What should I do after the flushing?

A. If the tap water is used during flushing, it could come out with sediment and discoloration. If you encounter discolored water, shut the water off and wait several minutes. After waiting, check the clarity by running cold water for a few minutes allowing new water to work its way into your pipes. If not, wait a few more minutes and check again. In some cases, you may experience slight discoloration for a few hours. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water; it does not affect the taste or water quality.

Q. What should I do if my water pressure or volume seems low after flushing?

A. Check your faucet and washer screens for trapped debris. If the problem persists please contact the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority at 215-348-9915.

Q. Why does the water look funny after hydrant flushing?

A. When a hydrant is opened, there will always be temporary incidences of discolored water containing fine sediment particles. There is no health hazard associated with discolored water. Allow a few hours for discoloration to dissipate. To verify the water has settled, allow your cold water tap to run a few minutes. If the discoloration persists for more than twenty-four (24) hours, please contact Doylestown Township Municipal Authority at 215-348-9915.

Q. Is it OK to drink sediment-laden or discolored water during temporary disturbance events?

A. It is recommended that water users wait until the water has cleared before using it for potable purposes.