

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLUSHING HOME PLUMBING

Flushing home plumbing lines is advisable if a nearby water main is depressurized because of a break. It's also recommended if there is a chance you could have lead service lines or lead plumbing fixtures.

THE BENEFITS OF FLUSHING

- The longer water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain.
- Even if you do not have a lead service line, plumbing fixtures like faucets, valves and solder can contain small amounts of lead, so flushing can still help reduce lead exposure.
- The amount of time you should run the cold water to flush your internal plumbing depends on whether you have a lead service line, the length of the lead service line, and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- The most important time to flush is after long periods of no use, such as first thing in the morning, after work, or upon returning from vacation.
- To conserve water, other household water usage activities such as showering, washing clothes, flushing the toilet and running the dishwasher, are effective methods for flushing pipes and allowing water from the distribution system to enter household pipes.

HOW TO FLUSH YOUR HOME'S PLUMBING

The City of Tulsa recommends you flush the cold water faucets in your home or business for 5-30 minutes.

- Remove aerators that could catch sediment and debris that was dislodged during recent work on the lines.
- Open the faucet (cold water only) and then open others one at a time, moving from the lowest level to the highest level of your home.
- After 5-30 minutes, turn off your faucets starting with the taps in the highest level moving to the lowest level.

Flushing your water lines will lower the risk of potential contamination that is created whenever a water main is depressurized or has possible lead sources. This is particularly important for people who have special health concerns because their immunity is compromised.



If you still experience problems with color, taste, odor or clarity issues after performing the above procedures, or if you have any questions, please call **(918) 591-4384**.



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