

# City of Monroe

## **Hydrant Flushing Operations**

The hydrant-flushing program is very important to the maintenance of the City's domestic water distribution system. In August, the Monroe Fire District and City water technicians will systematically open hydrants throughout the City to allow water to flow at a high velocity through the distribution mainlines. Watch the City's website and Public Notices for exact days the flushing will occur.

This operation serves the following purposes:

- Enhances water quality by removing sediments from inside the mainline and flushing them out through the hydrant.
- Identifies malfunctions of the hydrant and related valves.
- Helps determine weaknesses in the water distribution system.
- Identifies inadequate water volumes and pressures in the main lines.
- Determines the fire flows at the hydrant.
- Helps determine the City's fire Insurance rating that affects how much you'll pay for fire insurance on your home or property.

## **You may encounter the following conditions during hydrant flushing operations:**

- A temporary drop in the water pressure to your home or business.
- Rusty brown, or cloudy water. (Discolored water is not harmful. These conditions will subside in a few hours after the flushing is completed.)

## **Helpful Hints to Remember**

Before the flushing operation begins:

1. Fill a bottle or clean, plastic milk jug with fresh tap water and store it in the refrigerator to use for drinking and cooking.
2. Do NOT wash white or light-colored laundry during the flushing operations.

After the flushing operation is completed:

1. Open the cold-water faucets and let the water flow until it is clear. Turn off the faucets.
2. Open the hot water faucets and let the water flow until it is clear. Turn off the faucets.
3. When both hot and cold water are clear, the water is ready for use as normal.
4. Check the faucet screens for trapped particles.
5. Wash a load or two of dark-colored clothes first.

Please call City Hall ([541-847-5175](tel:541-847-5175)) for any questions.

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