

Polk City's

Water Main Flushing FAQ's

Why/how does the City flush water mains?

The reason that the City flushes water mains is to remove all the sediment deposits from the mains. Over time the water in the mains deposits sediments and minerals. By opening up water hydrants once a year the high velocity water purges these deposits from the system. This helps in maintaining clean high quality drinking water.



The City flushes the water mains by opening up water hydrants in a certain sequence; typically by moving down a specific road or path one at a time. If you encounter a City crew flushing water hydrants into the roadway DO NOT enter the water discharge! There is enough force to significantly damage your vehicle and if you are on foot or on a bicycle you could be severely injured.

What precautions should I take during the main flushing process?

During the main flushing process it is recommended that you check for discolored water before you start any process that discolored water could negatively affect; such as laundry, showering, etc.

I noticed that my water pressure has dropped and/or it is discolored. What should I do?

Both of these are potential outcomes of water main flushing and are only temporary. If you experience low water pressure during the flushing process wait until the City crews have finished the flushing process and check your water pressure.

If you are experiencing discolored water during the flushing process, wait until the City crews have finished the flushing process and then run the water in the affected location until it clears. For toilets flush until the water clears and for sinks, baths/showers turn on the COLD water and run the water until it clears.



If you have any other questions or concerns about this process please contact City Hall at (515) 984-6233.