

Hydrant Flushing is a quick release of water from fire hydrants used to maintain the quality of the Town's water distribution system. Hydrant flushing clears out sediments and minerals in the water main. Hydrant flushing is done in the spring and fall to help maintain quality water. Water can become temporarily discolored during hydrant flushing. Some discoloration is natural and goes away on its own. However, rust-colored water may stain clothes and dishes. Try to avoid laundry and dishes during the time of hydrant flushing. Wait until flushing has subsided in your area then run a cold water tap until the water runs clear if you have discolored water. Water main flushing removes sediment and minerals which improves the color, odor, and taste of water. Don't be alarmed if you notice reduced pressure and flow during a hydrant flushing. Water operators can correctly identify broken or inoperable valves during this process. Firefighters rely on hydrants to assess flow rate and water pressure to maximize their utility in fire-ground operations.