



East Rockaway Hydrant Flushing Schedule

4.23.18 through 5.4.18

Each year, American Water will flush their distribution (pipeline) system. This is an essential part of their system maintenance program, because it helps them to continue to provide you with high-quality water service. Although American Water has been carrying out this essential maintenance program for decades, they still receive questions from time to time about why and how they flush.

American Water flushes village fire hydrants, because it helps to clean out any mineral deposits and sediment that might build up over time inside the pipes. These harmless deposits can occur when there is reduced water demand. The program involves systematically opening fire hydrants in a specific order in an area to create increased water flows – allowing them to “flush” the sediment from the pipes. When crews are working in the area, you might notice a temporary drop in water pressure or discolored water. This is normal. If this happens, it is not harmful. Simply let your water run until it is clear.

Customer Tips

- Avoid running your tap water and using the washing machine or dishwasher while crews are flushing in your area.
- If discolored water occurs, simply run the cold water for a few minutes until it clear. This will allow the sediment to work its way through your pipes.
- Check for discolored water before using the washing machine or dishwasher. Wait until the water runs clear at the tap before doing laundry or running the dishwasher. NOTE: If your laundry becomes stained, DO NOT PUT YOUR LAUNDRY IN THE DRYER. Rewash clothes immediately using detergent and add a rust remover. Most rust removers can also be used on stained fixtures.
- In some cases, slight discoloration might linger for a few hours. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water and does not affect water quality. No health hazards are associated with discolored water from hydrant flushing.
- If water pressure or water volume seems low after flushing has been completed, check your faucet screens for trapped particles.