

FLUSHING YOUR APPLIANCES

Once you have flushed your hot and cold-water faucets, be sure to take these additional steps to flush plumbing appliances. To protect the health and safety of our communities, we recommend that you read carefully and follow the steps for flushing. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ice makers

If you have a filter on your ice maker: Some refrigerators, which have ice makers, also have filters on the small water line that feed the ice maker. If you have or use filters on your ice maker, you want to replace the filter AFTER flushing your refrigerator's ice maker. These filters require routine replacement. This would be a good time to replace the filter to ensure that the water line to the ice maker is completely flushed. Some refrigerators also provide filtered cold water. Check to make sure that you have replaced any filter AFTER flushing that is associated with the cold-water supply. Then flush cold-water dispenser for five minutes.

Dishwashers and washing machines

Dishes and clothes that were washed during the **DO NOT USE** order should be rewashed. After flushing hot water pipes and water heater, run dishwasher and washing machine empty one time.

Humidifiers, CPAP and other devices

Throw away any water used in humidifiers, Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP), oral, medical or healthcare devices, and rinse the device with clean water.

Baby formula, food or drinks made with water during the "DO NOT USE"

Be sure you have thrown away any baby formula or other foods prepared with water during the incident. This includes drinks like Gatorade made with powder or concentrate.

Water filters

Clean or change your water filter or contact the filter manufacturer for more details.

Water supplies for pets

Pets need clean water too. Be sure to empty all water bowls, bottles, or other water supplies for your pet. After flushing your water system, wash the pet bowl, bottle or other water supply. Then refill with tap water.

Point of entry/point of use devices

(this may not apply to all customers)

If you have a Point of Entry water treatment system such as a water softener or filter, which all if the home's water passes through before it enters the main plumbing system, you should consider the following general guidelines before completing your household plumbing flushing

Water Softeners

Household water softeners, which use a natural or synthetic resin material to exchange sodium for calcium and magnesium present in the water, should be manually regenerated before flushing your plumbing system. This will ensure that the softener resin has been backwashed and cleaned before flushing procedures begin.

If you are unsure of how to manually initiate a regeneration cycle, refer to your softener owner's manual or call you equipment supplier for assistance.

Point of use filters/treatment

If you have or use Point of Use filters, which are typically attached to your kitchen faucet you should replace the filter before using the faucet-connected unit. These filters require periodic replacement, making this an appropriate time.

Reverse Osmosis

Reverse Osmosis drinking water treatment systems often have pre-filters, which you may want to replace before flushing the RO System. However, the actual Reverse Osmosis membrane module should not require replacement. If the manufacturer of the membrane suggests that you replace this part of the system you should ask them to give you the specific reasons why.

FLUSHING YOUR HOME

HOW TO FLUSH AN ENTIRE HOUSE PLUMBING SYSTEM

Sometimes it is necessary to clean the plumbing components in your home. These instructions will help by providing some step-by-step instructions on how to do a complete flush.

To protect the health and safety of our communities, we recommend that you read carefully and follow the steps for flushing. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTE: After flushing your water filters may need to be replaced. If you have any point of entry water treatment system such as a water softener or filter, please refer to the instruction manual for replacement of the filter.

At the end of this document, you will find instructions on how to clean your faucet aerator. These instructions should be followed after conducting a house plumbing flush.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete these steps in the order set out below. Finish each step completely before moving on to the next step.

NOTE: Avoid using water the evening of flushing, if possible.

1. Flush ALL cold (hard) water taps until clear.

Avoid using hot water until the cold (hard) water is clear. If your hot water is discolored, it will take an extensive period of time to clear by flushing. The reason it takes time to clear, is that your hot water tank acts as a reservoir if used during flushing. Once the hot water tank and hot water piping have been flushed, open ALL of the cold-water fixtures, flush each toilet at least one time. Run these cold-water fixtures for at least five minutes. Shut water off after five minutes. This does include the water in your refrigerator water dispenser.

2. Flush ALL remaining Appliances and Faucets.

NOTE: Before starting step 2, please see FLUSHING YOUR APPLIANCES for more information.

Open any remaining fixtures such as hose bibs, external faucets or fixtures not used for drinking for at least five minutes to finish the plumbing system flushing. Take additional steps to remove water from other appliances.

APPLIANCES INCLUDE:

*Ice Makers *Dishwashers *Washing Machines *Humidifiers *CPAP Machines *Oral, Medical or Health Care Devices *Baby Formula *Water Filters *Water Softeners *Filters, point of use and whole house

Discoloration may occur during flushing. This is expected.
It is not a health issue.
Any lingering smell is not a health issue.