WATERLINE FLUSHING PROGRAM

Public Works Utility Division personnel flush the water distribution system annually, typically in the spring. This procedure is necessary to help maintain the water quality in the distribution system, and is performed by systematically opening fire hydrants throughout the city.

The flushing program typically begins around April 1. Crews will work through the city flushing a different section each week for five weeks - see schedule below:

WATER SYSTEM FLUSHING SCHEDULE	
Week One	Industrial and commercial areas: Interlocken, Jeffco Airport, Broomfield Industrial Park, Flatiron Retail District, West Midway. Flushing will be done at night.
Week Two	Main Street to west city limits, north of 10th Avenue, Main Street to Sheridan Boulevard, north of 10th Avenue.
Week Three	Highway 287 to Sheridan Boulevard, between 10th Avenue and south city limits.
Week Four	Sheridan Boulevard to Zuni Street, north of 120th Avenue and south of 136th Avenue.
Week Five	Sheridan Boulevard to Zuni Street, north of 136th Avenue, to include Anthem subdivision.

Flushing requires a large amount of water to create a “scouring” effect on the inside of the pipes to remove sediment in which bacteria may form. The process improves the taste and odor qualities of the water and helps maintain chlorine residual in the system.

This scouring effect may result in some temporary discoloration in the water. If this happens, residents are advised that although unpleasant to look at, the water is safe to drink. The water should clear up once the system settles down, usually within 24 hours.

Pressure tests will also be performed concurrently at each hydrant location each year. These tests are required by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) in order to rate the city’s fire suppression system. The ISO rating ranging from 1 to 10 (1 being the best) has a direct affect on residential and commercial insurance rates within the Fire District. Broomfield’s current rating is 4, which is considered to be very good.

Flushing operations take 4-5 weeks and require the use of approximately 15 million gallons of water. Business, commercial, industrial, and other high traffic areas are flushed at night to minimize inconvenience to citizens. Residential and lower traffic areas are flushed during regular working hours.

If you have any questions or concerns contact Public Works Field Services at 303.438.6334 or via email.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

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