



FAQ'S

BLOOMFIELD HYDRANT FLUSHING

Why does the township flush hydrants?

Hydrant flushing is part of the normal maintenance of a water system. Hydrant flushing has two main purposes:

1. To flush out sediment and rust which accumulate in the pipes of the water system over time.
2. Make sure all hydrants are operational for firefighting purposes.

The N.J. Department of Environmental Protection requires all water systems to flush every hydrant in their system every year.

Does hydrant flushing affect my water?

Yes, hydrant flushing can temporarily cause your water to come out of the taps brown or discolored. There may also be an unusual odor to the water. These conditions are temporary and will stop once the flushing is done in your area for the day.

Should I be concerned about the condition of the water when it comes out discolored?

If you are experiencing brown or discolored water you should contact the Bloomfield Engineering Department at 973-680-4009. The Engineering Department will confirm if hydrants in your area are being flushed. We do not recommend consuming water that is discolored. If the Engineering Department confirms that this is being caused by a hydrant flushing event, it is recommended you let your water run for several minutes to clear out any sediment. If the discolored water persists for more than half a day, you should contact the Engineering Department.

Why is my water discolored when the hydrants are flushed?

When a hydrant is opened, it creates a disturbance or surge within the pipes in the street. This causes any sediment or rust within the pipe to become loose and mix with the water in the pipes. The sediment is eventually flushed out of the hydrant during the process, but while this is occurring, some homes may draw off the discolored water into their taps. Once the hydrants are closed, any remaining sediment can be flushed out of individual household taps by running the water for several minutes or until it clears up.

Is there any way I can be notified that hydrants are being flushed in my area or neighborhood?

Yes, the Bloomfield Fire Department, who are responsible for performing routine hydrant flushing post the locations where hydrants will be flushed on the Township Website under the banner "Latest News". You can also contact the Bloomfield Engineering Department at 973-680-4009.



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