## **FLUSHING INSTRUCTIONS**

## AFTER WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

Flushing, or running water through your open faucets for at least 30 minutes, after service line replacement is important because it helps prevent:

- Exposure to lead and other particles that may have been dislodged into household plumbing as part of the service line replacement.
- Changes in water pressure.
- Discolored water.
- Clogged fixtures.
- Sputtering faucets, irregular water flow and vibrating pipes caused by trapped air.
- "Water hammer," caused by a pressure surge or shockwave, which can occur when water is forced to change direction or stop abruptly, which can damage plumbing.

## Crews will flush your new service line using an outdoor spigot (weather- permitting). To flush your interior plumbing, follow these steps:

- 1. Remove aerators, or screens, from all faucets.
  You may need a special key (from the faucet manufacturer, hardware store or a plumbing supply store) to remove the aerator.
- 2. To clear the aerator of debris:
  - Unscrew the aerator.
  - Separate the individual parts inside the aerator.
  - Soak the parts in white vinegar for five minutes and gently scrub with a brush.
  - Reassemble the aerator.
- 3. Beginning on the lowest level of your home, fully open all faucets using cold water only, including at sinks, bathtubs or showers, until all faucets are running in your home. Make sure that all water is draining properly from faucet locations.
- 4. After the last faucet is opened on the top level of your home, let the water run from all open faucets for at least 30 minutes. (You may want to collect this water for plants, cleaning or other household uses.)
- 5. After 30 minutes, start on the top floor of your home and turn off each faucet. Reattach aerators.

Video instructions are available by scanning the QR code.



## After today

Over the next 30 days, when water has not been used for a few hours, such as first thing in the morning or when getting home from work, run cold water from the kitchen or any bathroom faucet for five minutes. Approximately four months after your replacement, you will be offered a free water quality testing kit to verify that lead levels have been reduced.



