



# Water main flushing

July 2021

Starting July 12, The City of Calgary will be flushing water mains in the community of Charleswood. Flushing in your neighborhood will take place July 12-23.

As part of our regular preventative maintenance on the drinking water distribution system, unidirectional flushing (UDF) helps preserve our high-quality drinking water and the integrity of our water distribution system.

## What is unidirectional flushing (UDF)?

This process isolates sections of water pipes in a sequence which creates velocity. We then open a hydrant at the end to create one directional water flow.

The high-speed water lifts and flushes sediment and mineral deposits from the pipes out onto the street through the fire hydrant.

UDF can take anywhere from 20 minutes up to several hours per pipe. On average this type of flushing uses 40 per cent less water than traditional flushing methods.

## Community impacts

- City crews will be releasing high volumes of water from hydrants, monitoring progress and taking water samples.
- Large amounts of water will flow into the street and down storm drains (also called catch

basins). They are designed to handle the flow and street flooding should not happen.

- There will be no impacts to water service however some customers may experience a slight drop in water pressure and/or discoloration in cold water. This will resolve once flushing activity is completed.
- In some cases, we may place NO PARKING signs in the area, however, this work takes 20 minutes to a couple of hours to complete and is temporary. Thanks for adhering to these signs.
- Work hours are typically Monday to Saturday, from **7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**
- Please do not use any type of liquid lawn or deck products that are applied/attached directly to your hose while your area is receiving UDF.

## If you receive a door tag, please complete these steps:

- **Wash** any tap aerators or screens in hot, soapy water, and then disinfect them for 10 minutes in a solution of one-part bleach to nine parts water.
- **Disinfect** any water filters to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- **Run** bathtub tap on cold water only for 30 minutes until the water clears. Then run other cold taps in house for 5 minutes or until clear.
- If water does not run clear after running the taps for 30 minutes, contact 311. Do not use this water.

Thanks for your patience while we complete this important work.

### **Project Information**

For more information on this water main cleaning visit [Calgary.ca/flushing](https://calgary.ca/flushing) or contact **311**.