



Central Ohio Joint Fire District

5138 Columbus Road
Centerburg Ohio, 43011
Phone: (740) 625-5646

Press Release:

The Central Ohio Joint Fire District will be conducting hydrant flushing and flow testing in the Hilliar Township, South Bloomfield Township, and Village of Centerburg. We will start this on May 22, 2024, from the hours of 08:00 A.M. and will be completing this by May 31, 2024. Below are some frequently asked questions. We are sorry for any inconvenience while this is being performed.

Why does the Fire Department perform hydrant flushing?

Hydrant flushing is the quick release of water from fire hydrants. It's a controlled procedure that is vital to the general maintenance of the DelCo's water distribution system. It ensures adequate water flow is available to fire fighters, residents and businesses. It also helps maintain the DelCo's water clarity and quality by clearing iron and mineral deposits from the water mains (distribution pipes).

What are the effects of hydrant flushing?

Hydrant flushing helps ensure water quality and helps avoid random bouts of rusty water if there is a high demand for water, such as a major firefighting effort or high usage during a sustained drought.

Sometimes hydrant flushing can make makes the water temporarily appear rust-colored because the iron and mineral deposits in the water get stirred up.

Why is my water rust/tea-colored from the hydrant flushing? Is the water safe?

Sometimes hydrant flushing can make the water temporarily appear rust-colored because the iron and mineral deposits in the water get stirred up. Water is safe to use and consume during hydrant flushing, however it may stain laundry.

The main component of the discoloration of the water during hydrant flushing is caused by iron deposits from inside the water mains. The source of the iron is naturally occurring

from ground water wells and deposits in the ductile iron pipe that make up the underground water system.

How come my water is discolored, but my neighbor didn't notice any discoloration?

If you were home when the flushing was going on and you turned on your water, you're water may be discolored because you are drawing in the water as the city's system is flushing it and stirring up the minerals and iron.

If your neighbors were not home all day and returned home in the evening and turned on their tap when no flushing was occurring, they most likely will not notice any discoloration.

My water is discolored. What should I do?

Wait until flushing has subsided in your area then run the cold water tap until the water runs clear. If you have a water softener and are experiencing discolored water, place the unit into regeneration or cleaning mode after hydrant flushing is completed in your area. Remember rust colored water is safe, but it may stain laundry.

How often is hydrant flushing done?

Hydrant flushing is performed two times a year—once in the spring and once in the fall.

Tips for Minimizing Water Discoloration during Hydrant Flushing Operations

- If possible, limit your water use.
- Wait until flushing has subsided in your area then run the cold water tap until the water runs clear.
- If you have a water softener and are experiencing discolored water, place the unit into regeneration or cleaning mode after hydrant flushing is completed in your area.
- Remember rust colored water is safe, but it may stain laundry. If this happens, keep clothes wet and treat them with stain remover.

For more information, contact Central Ohio Joint Fire District at station 420-(740)-625-5646 or Officer Cell Phone-740-504-8640

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