



---

INFORMATIONAL RELEASE

April 30, 2021

## Annual Hydrant Flushing

Burlington Water Resources plans to begin inspecting and flushing all fire hydrants on Monday May 3, 2021. This is a controlled procedure that is a vital component of our maintenance plan to ensure the distribution system is delivering the best possible water and all hydrants are in working order.

### Description:

Field Services will be in a clearly marked DPW vehicle and will conduct most flushing exercises between 7:30 am to 2:30 pm. We will visit each City owned fire hydrant, attach a diffuser to the outlet, open it fully and flow the water at a high velocity until it clears. A diffuser is attached to the hydrant so our sidewalks, roads and unpaved surfaces are not damaged by the velocity. The flushing route is optimized so each water main (major and minor) is completed along with the related side streets before advancing to another area. We will be exercising 966 hydrants and expect the process to take three months.

### Impacts:

Residents should expect to experience fluctuating water pressure or discolored water when the hydrants closest to them are being operated. The discoloration is caused when the naturally occurring minerals and sediments accumulated in the water mains are disturbed by the flushing process. If you are impacted by discolored water, please let one cold water tap run for several minutes to hasten the return of water clarity. We do not recommend laundering light colored clothing during hydrant flushing.

### Contacts:

Hydrant Map & Daily Flushing Schedule: [www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpw/hydrants](http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpw/hydrants)

Water Resources Customer Care: 802-863-4501 or [water-resources@burlingtonvt.gov](mailto:water-resources@burlingtonvt.gov) (M-F, 8-4:30)

Urgent Questions or Emergencies (24/7): 802-863-4501