

Residential

It is always a good practice to flush your water pipes and faucets for 30 seconds after periods of low or no flow, such as while you are at work or overnight while you are sleeping. This flushing helps remove routine corrosion particles from the piping and freshens the water.

There are also other steps to take after an extended period of discontinued service (e.g., weeks or months.) A thorough flushing process is appropriate in such situations.

Prepare to flush water pipes:

1. Remove and clean faucet aerators and showerheads. Leave off during flushing.
2. Remove point of use filter cartridges, such as the filter in refrigerators, and consider replacing.
3. Discard ice from ice makers and discard two to three additional batches.

Flush water pipes and internal plumbing:

1. Begin with fixtures where the water first enters the home.
2. Systematically flush from bottom to top of the house.
3. Flush cold-water lines first, then the hot water lines.
4. Flush each fixture at a full flow rate for five minutes or until a noticeable change in water temperature occurs.
5. Run dishwashers and clothes washers empty for two to three cycles.