

IMPORTANT  
HEALTH  
INFORMATION  
FOR  
**HOMEOWNERS  
FOLLOWING  
SERVICE LINE  
REPLACEMENT**

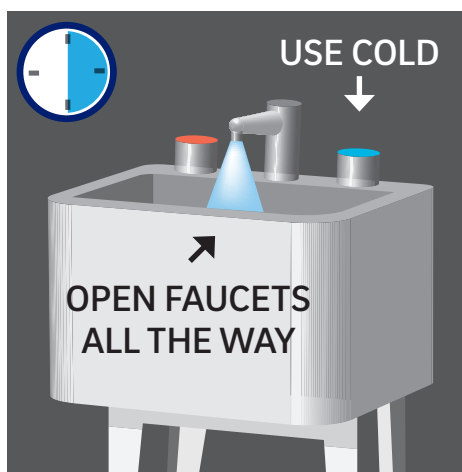
# Intensive flushing

to clean your home's drinking water pipes



**CAUTION**

Following lead or steel service line replacement, small pieces of lead or other debris may have entered the pipes in your house. That may lead to high levels of lead in the water you use to cook and drink for up to three months. **Lead is harmful to everyone. Pregnant women, infants, children under the age of six, and adults with high blood pressure and kidney problems are at the most risk.**



## Instructions for intensive flushing

Remove all aerators first. Run cold water from every faucet or tap in your whole house for at least 30 minutes. Start with taps in the basement or lowest floors and work your way up, opening all taps. Make sure drains are clear!

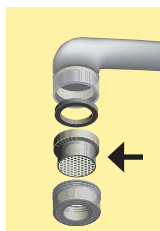
Studies show that running quickly flowing water through a home's plumbing every two weeks for three months after pipes have been disturbed by construction can lower lead levels in drinking water.

**Full detailed instructions** for intensive flushing are included on the back of this sheet.

How often?	For how long?	When to stop?
Perform flushing every two weeks.	30 minutes	Do this for three months following lead or steel service line replacement.

## DON'T FORGET!

**Daily Cleaning:** If no one has used the water for six hours or more, run your **COLD** tap to get fresh water in your pipes **BEFORE** using cold water for drinking, cooking, making baby formula, feeding your pets, making ice, or watering vegetable gardens.



**Aerator Cleaning:** Clean debris from aerators (also called screens) once a month after service line replacement. If aerators are old and worn, replace them with new ones. Aerators should be replaced twice a year.

## Full instructions for intensive flushing

### BEFORE YOU START

1. Always use COLD water when you rinse the pipes.
2. Locate all water faucets in the house where you can run the water without the sink or tub overflowing.
  - Be sure to include any laundry tubs and utility sinks.
  - Use showers that are not attached to bathtubs. Take off the showerheads, if possible.
  - If a shower is attached to a bathtub, just use the bathtub faucet.
3. Take off aerators (also called screens) from all faucets and showerheads.
  - If you cannot take these off, do not use the faucet for rinsing the pipes.
4. Make sure all drains are open and clear so water can flow freely down the drains. After you take off aerators/screens, quickly flowing water will splash and spray.

### TURNING ON YOUR TAPS

5. After all aerators/screens are off, start opening faucets in the basement or on the lowest floor.
  - Open COLD water faucets all the way to let the water come out as fast as it can.
  - Keep the water running from all faucets at the highest rate possible.
6. Go up to the next floor.
  - Open all COLD water faucets there and let the water come out as fast as it can.
7. Continue until you fully open COLD water faucets on all floors of your house.
8. After ALL faucets are open fully, let the water run for 30 minutes.

**TIP:** You can save some of this water in buckets for washing your car or watering flowers. Never use this water for food, pets or in gardens that will be used to grow food.
9. After 30 minutes, go the basement or the lowest floor.
  - Turn off all the faucets.
  - Go to each floor and close the faucets in the order that you opened them.
10. Clean the aerators/screens and put them back on at each faucet.
  - If aerators /screens are old and worn, replace them with new ones.