

If you are experiencing sediment, particles and/or discoloration of your water, the following steps may help to relieve these issues. In most cases the problem is caused by naturally-occurring minerals that are commonly found in groundwater. While the minerals are not harmful, they can be unsightly and cause issues such as the clogging of aerators, screens, and filters in your home. Below are general instructions on how to properly flush waterlines in and around your home.

1. It is best to remove any hoses that are attached to the outside faucet before flushing so that you are able to achieve the maximum rate of flow. (**Please insure all water sources are completely open throughout the flushing procedure.**) Once hoses are removed begin flushing with the faucet closest to your water meter completely open. Before proceeding make sure all isolation valves, if any, are completely open. While flushing the faucet, periodically check for discoloration or particles in the water. If the water clears after flushing for 15 minutes, proceed to step 2. If the water does not clear after flushing for more than 15 mins contact the city's Public Works department for further assistance.
2. Before proceeding further with flushing, all aerators should be removed from faucets. Screens and filters should also be removed from appliances. For instructions on removing these devices you may want to reference your owner's manual or contact the manufacturer. Once aerators, screens and filters have been removed then proceed with step 3.
3. To achieve the best results start flushing the cold water in the area where water enters the home (see #1 below), progressing to the furthest area of the home away from this point. If you have a two-story home, start with the second floor, then move to the first floor. The cold water should be flushed one faucet or water source (e.g. tub, commode) at a time until it clears. Continue to flush in this manner until all water sources have been flushed. Then proceed to step 4.
4. The hot water heater will need to be flushed if you are experiencing issues on the hot water side. Refer to the city website for instructions on how to flush a hot water heater. Once the hot water heater has been flushed, the hot water side of every faucet can be flushed. Start from the closest point to the hot water heater and end at the furthest faucet.
5. Clean all aerators, screens and filters with cold water before reinstalling. If you have any questions regarding these issues please contact City of Pearland.

#1 - The service line from the water main to the house can typically hold between 4 and 8 gallons of water. Interior plumbing, which is typically constructed using 1/2 and 3/4 inch water lines, depending on the size of the home, can hold an additional 5 to 10 gallons. The hot water heating tank, which holds the largest amount of water in the home's plumbing, typically ranges from 30 to

80 gallons. To ensure that the home's service line and plumbing system is adequately flushed, it will be necessary to run water through all of the fixtures over a long enough period of time to displace any water that is of uncertain quality.

ICE MAKER FILTERS Some refrigerators with icemakers also have filters on the small water line that feeds the icemaker. If you have or use filters on your icemaker, replace the filter before flushing your refrigerator's icemaker. These filters require periodic replacement. During flushing would be a good time to replace the filter to ensure that the water line to the icemaker is completely flushed. Some refrigerators also provide filtered cold water. Check to make sure that you have replaced any filter associated with the cold water supply as well.