

NEWS RELEASE

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City to commence annual water main flushing program

Summary

The City's Engineering and Public Works Department annually flushes potable water at a high velocity through local water mains to ensure that all piping is refreshed and minor sediment within the pipes is removed. This is one of the methods that the City uses to help keep Nanaimo's drinking water safe and clean.

The Water Main Flushing Program starts in February with crews flushing water supply mains from the South Forks dam into the City. Between March and May, crews flush the in-town water distribution mains starting in the Cinnabar area, then through town, finishing in the north end of Nanaimo.

Strategic Link: Taking responsibility to be an excellent municipal government.

Key Points

- While this program is underway, short periods of low pressure and discoloured water may be expected. Any discolouration is temporary and not a health hazard.
- Residents are asked to minimize their water consumption if a change in water appearance is noticed. To clear water lines, residents are advised to turn on their cold water tap until the water runs clear.
- Anyone with a weakened immune system should reference information on Island Health's website.

Quotes

"Regular water main flushing is an important component of a comprehensive water management program designed to help keep water safe and clean. Every year the City of Nanaimo's Water Main Flushing Program washes out over 90km of water supply mains and over 536km of distribution water mains."

John Elliot
Manager of Utilities
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- Residents are encouraged to visit the City's website to access more information concerning when City crews will flush pipes in specific neighbourhoods.

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Continued... City to commence annual water main flushing program

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