

Discolored Water/Flushing Guide

Occasionally, you might notice discolored water coming from your faucet. While it's not aesthetically pleasing, discolored water is safe. But why is your water an odd color? Read on to find out.

Is it safe to drink?

Discolored water may not be aesthetically pleasing, but it is safe to drink. However, the Seekonk Water District does not recommend using discolored water to do laundry as clothes can become stained. Discolored water and trapped air are common occurrences after a water main break or other water system maintenance work. Discolored water is caused by sediment and mineral deposits in the pipes that can be stirred up when the water is turned off and then back on following work on the Seekonk Water District system.

Flushing the COLD water pipes in your home or business usually clears up the discolored water and will allow trapped air to be released.

After a Water Main Repair:

After water main repair work is completed in your area, flush the COLD water lines in your home or business using the following steps:

The Seekonk Water District suggests running a COLD water tap or outside spigot for about five minutes but no more than 25 minutes until the water runs clear.

Begin with the lowest faucet in your home or business.

Once the water runs clear, turn off your faucet.

You may also want to flush your refrigerator's water line.

If the discolored water persists after running your cold water for 25 minutes, please call our office at 508-761-8170. This line is monitored 24 hours a day.

What happens if I was doing white laundry during a water main break or other water system maintenance work?

If your clothing gets stained, we suggest you rewash the clothes using a rust remover product. This type of product is available at your local Walmart, Lowes, Home Depot, Ace Hardware etc. It can be identified by the names Red-B-Gone or Iron Out and is usually found in the plumbing or cleaning aisle. For better results, do not let the clothes dry between the original wash and rewash.