

# FLUSHING INSTRUCTIONS

## AFTER WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

### For multifamily and commercial properties

**After your water service line replacement it is important to flush your facility's pipes.**

Lead particles and other debris can get trapped in a facility's plumbing after the water service line replacement. To minimize lead exposure, Denver Water's crews flush new service lines using an outside spigot. The indoor plumbing also should be flushed to reduce the amount of lead-containing particles and other debris that may have entered the pipes during the work.

**If your facility is a multi-family residence with more than four units or a commercial building, please work with the building's engineer or facility manager to flush your indoor pipes using these steps:**

1. Turn on the cold water inside the building (break room sinks, drinking fountains, utility closets, restrooms, etc.) on each floor. Start from the nearest point at which water enters the building.
2. The cold water has been successfully flushed when you feel the water temperature go from slightly warm to cold.
3. Flush hot water storage tanks (boiler and/or hot water tanks) per the manufacturer's flushing instructions) to displace stagnant/dischored water with fresh water.
4. Repeat step 1 using hot water. The hot water has been successfully flushed when you feel the water temperature turn from warm to hot.
5. Flush and perform preventative maintenance on point-of-use devices or systems, such as cooling towers, systems providing additional water treatment, etc., per the manufacturer's recommendations as applicable.



**For all properties and units: Over the next 30 days, when water has not been used for a few hours, such as first thing in the morning, flush cold water from a kitchen or bathroom faucet for five minutes before drinking or using water for food or formula preparation.**

Lead levels can be temporarily elevated due to remaining lead particles in the service line. Denver Water offers free water quality testing kits approximately four months after replacement to confirm that lead levels have been reduced.

**For the next six months, those at your facility should continue to use the Denver Water-provided water pitchers and filters.**



Filter water for drinking (including making tea and coffee), cooking (particularly when making foods like rice, beans and soup) and preparing infant formula.

**For more information on the Lead Reduction Program, call Denver Water Customer Care at 303-893-2444 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, email us at [lead@denverwater.org](mailto:lead@denverwater.org) or go to [denverwater.org/Lead](https://denverwater.org/Lead).**