



**Foothills**  
UTILITIES™

## **FLUSHING AND VALVE EXERCISING IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR ANNUAL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

### **2024 FLUSHING PROGRAM**

Each year, Foothills Utilities flushes the pipes in its water distribution system and exercises our valves. This is an essential part of our system maintenance program, which helps us to continue to provide you with high-quality water service. This flushing and exercising program will begin in early February and take several weeks to complete. Although we've been carrying out this maintenance program over time, we do receive questions from time to time about why we flush.

### **WHY FLUSHING IS IMPORTANT**

Flushing our system helps to clean out any build-up of mineral deposits and sediment inside the pipes. These harmless deposits can occur when there is a reduced water demand. We also flush our hydrants to make sure they are operational and to check fire flows in our system.

### **HOW WE FLUSH OUR PIPELINES**

Flushing involves simultaneously opening fire hydrants in a specific area to create increased water flows. When crews are in your area, you may notice a drop in water pressure or discolored water. Discolored water may occur because the sediment in the water mains gets stirred up when the fire hydrants are used and when the flow of water in the mains is changed. This is normal. If this happens, it is not harmful. Simply let your water run until it is clear.

### **HOW TO PREPARE FOR FLUSHING IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

- Draw water for cooking ahead of time.
- Store a large bottle of water in the refrigerator for drinking.
- Check for discolored water before using the washing machine or dishwasher.