



City of Richmond LSLR Program

Flushing Your Pipes After Service Line Replacement

After your service line is replaced, it is important to flush all of the pipes in your house. Flushing will loosen and remove any lead particles and clean your pipes after the service line replacement.

Follow the Six Steps to the Right and Note These Important Guidelines:

Do **NOT** flush at these locations: outdoor hose bibs, taps where filter cannot be bypassed, any tap where aerator cannot be removed

Bathtubs and laundry sinks are required to be flushed as they will create the highest flushing velocities and have the most potential to remove particulates

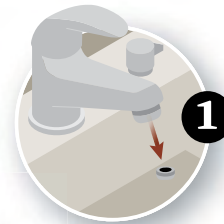
Check your faucet aerator to see if it needs a key to remove the screen

IMPORTANT:

ONLY use COLD water. Do NOT use any HOT water until after you have flushed all of the pipes in your house. Using hot water could cause lead particles to settle in your hot water heater

Flush all of your pipes immediately following your service line replacement and do not use any water until the flushing is complete.

1 NOTE: Removing aerators is essential to prevent particulates from collecting on the screen. Please see removal instructions on reverse side of this sheet.



Remove Aerators and Screens

Remove aerators and screens from all faucets being flushed (skip faucets with aerators that cannot be removed)



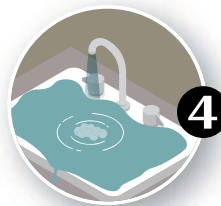
Open Cold Water Taps

Start at the lowest level of the house and open cold water taps to the highest flowrate possible. Continue to open faucets on higher floors



Run Water

After all taps are open, leave water running and set a timer for 30 mins



Check Sinks

Check the sinks to ensure water doesn't overflow during flushing



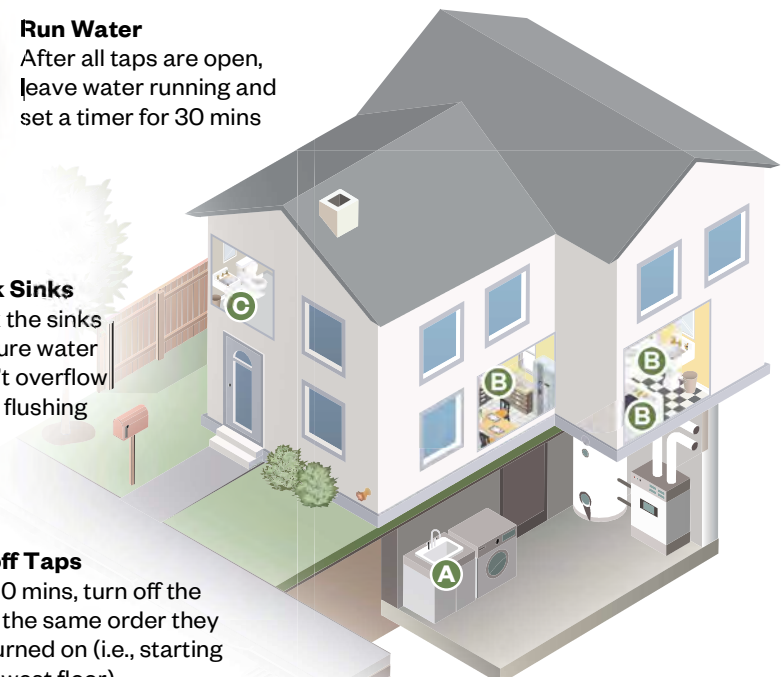
Turn off Taps

After 30 mins, turn off the taps in the same order they were turned on (i.e., starting from lowest floor)



Re-Install Aerators

Clean and re-install aerators or replace if worn or damaged



Flushing Locations

C Open taps from the lowest level to the upper levels and flush simultaneously.
B
A

Additional Steps to Reduce Your Risk of Lead Exposure:

DAILY FLUSHING – if water has not been used for over several hours or longer, flush water from the kitchen faucet for 5 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking purposes.

REGULAR FLUSHING – if water has not been used for a long period of time (e.g., post vacation), all faucets (not just kitchen) should be run for 10 minutes at their highest possible flowrate with aerators temporarily removed before using for drinking or cooking purposes.

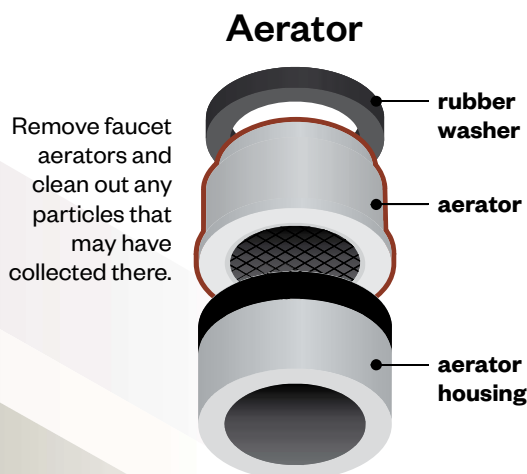
POINT-OF-USE (POU) FILTERS – POU filters certified to NSF/ANSI Standards 42 and 53 for lead removal (pitcher or faucet) should be used following a service line replacement for at least 6 months. Follow manufacturer recommended practices for replacing filter cartridges.

CLEANING AERATORS – aerators/screens should be cleaned once a month for at least 6 months following a service line replacement or replaced if worn/damaged.

Faucet Aerator Removal Tools



Aerator Removal and Maintenance



Contact

Contact Water Quality Services at 804.646.8701 if you have any questions regarding flushing your pipes after service line replacement.

