

2016 Water System Flushing Schedule

Lehigh County Authority (LCA) will complete systemwide flushing of the water system in Allentown during the spring and summer months. This is an important maintenance program that helps to ensure your water system is maintaining proper disinfection, and to clean out the water lines in your neighborhood.

What should you do when LCA is flushing in your area?

If you see a crew flushing a hydrant on your street, avoid running tap water, using the washing machine, or running the dishwasher until the flushing is complete to avoid drawing discolored water into your home plumbing. If possible, completely avoid using your hot water as this may draw discolored water into your hot water heater allowing the discoloration to persist for long periods of time. After the flushing has completed in your area, turn on your cold water tap. If you encounter discolored water, shut the water off and wait several minutes before you turn on your cold water tap again.

Safety Notice: If you see hydrant flushing crews working in the area, please drive carefully and treat them like any other road construction crew.

Brown Water Notice: Discoloration of your water after system flushing only affects the appearance of the water. There is no health risk associated with the discoloration of water after system flushing.

Schedule: The 2016 flushing schedule is shown below and should be considered as tentative depending on the weather. Unless otherwise noted, flushing will occur during daytime hours.

April 11–April 24: **Ward 17** West Allentown, north of Hamilton, west of 22nd Street

April 25–May 1: **Ward 8** and **Ward 11** North Allentown, north of Gordon Street, between 7th and 22nd Streets

May 2–May 15: **Ward 12** South Allentown, south of Little Lehigh Creek and west of the railroad tracks, from Trout Creek Park to Bicentennial Park and on to the Queen City Airport area

May 16–May 22: **Ward 1, 2, 5 and 4** Center City, both north and south of Hamilton, between 4th and 9th Streets

May 23–May 29: **Ward 10** North Allentown, east of 7th Street, between Liberty Street and Sumner Avenue

May 30–June 5: **Ward 8** North Allentown, west of 7th Street, between Liberty Street and Sumner Avenue

June 6–June 12: **Ward 9** and **Ward 6** Center City, north of Hamilton, east of Law Street and following north along the Lehigh River

June 13–June 19: **Ward 14** East Allentown, east of the Lehigh River, from Keck Park north up to the East Side Fire Station

June 20–July 10: **Ward 15** (Minus high elevation system) East Allentown, north and east of the East Side Fire station, and then south toward the Allentown State Hospital area



July 11–July 17: **Ward 16** (Minus high elevation system) South Allentown, south of the Lehigh River and east of the railroad tracks, south down to Chapel Avenue

July 18–July 31: **Ward 19** (Minus high elevation system) South Allentown, south and east of Trout Creek Park, down to the South Mountain Reservoir and Park area

After these areas are completed, the high elevation system will be flushed at night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

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the pipe lining.

Some customers do face a higher risk of lead exposure depending on the plumbing materials in their home — like brass fixtures and lead solder. Some customers who have water softeners installed may be adjusting the chemistry of their own tap water, which, if the home has any lead in its plumbing, can result in different levels of lead leaching.

Older homes

Additionally, some homes built more than 40 years ago may have their water delivered through a lead service line.

While LCA replaces its portion of lead service lines routinely during water main replacement projects and other work in older commu-

nities, homeowners are responsible for replacing service lines and any internal plumbing fixtures. None of LCA's approximately 600 miles of water mains are made of lead.

LCA encourages all customers to become informed about the risk of exposure to lead for their children.

If you are worried about lead in your lines, you can install a water filter (at your own cost) that services your entire house, or install individual filters on your faucets.

You can also have your water tested, at your own cost, to see if it contains lead. There are a number of licensed plumbers in the region who can perform this service if you are unable to do it yourself.

Customers with questions about lead in their drinking water are encouraged to contact LCA.