



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

**Date:** March 31, 2009

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### **Water Services Department Cleans System to Ensure Continued Quality Water Supply**

**St. George, UT.-** The City of St. George Water Services Department is beginning its annual flushing program throughout the City's water system, with an emphasis on dead end water mains. The goal of this program is to ensure that water quality is maintained at its optimal level. Flushing is a process by which the water is moved through the water pipes at a high velocity so that a scouring action is created. Water is then discharged through a hydrant which in turn removes any material build-up from the pipe. The material removed from this process is harmless and requires no special treatment.

Because the water mains are sized to allow adequate and safe flows for fire protection, water is typically moving through the undergrounding pipes at a low velocity. This slow movement allows mineral deposits to build up and accumulate in the pipes over time. This buildup can restrict the flow of water in the pipes and contributes to corrosion, water color problems, and inadequate fire flow.

Periodic flushing of the water pipes removes the mineral deposits which helps maintain our city's infrastructure, assures consistent high quality water, and improves fire flows throughout the system.

You will probably not even be aware that flushing is taking place in your neighborhood. Flushing is generally conducted between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Select hydrants in each neighborhood will be opened for water pipe flushing. While the hydrants are open, the homes on that block may experience discolored water or a small drop in the water pressure. However, your water service should not be interrupted. If you have no water pressure, please notify the Water Services Department at 627-4800.

Should your water have a reddish, yellow, or brown tint, do not be alarmed. It is recommended that you do not use water or do laundry for about two hours. After you have waited, run your

faucets for a few minutes to make sure the water is clear, at which time you may resume normal water use.

If the water does not clear within a few hours, please notify the Water Services Department at 627-4800

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