



# **UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUSHING (UDF)**

### MAINTAINING HIGH QUALITY WATER WITH FLUSHING

Camrosa Water District (Camrosa) works to ensure high-quality water. One way we do that is to flush the water lines as part of our operations and maintenance. Over time, tiny bits of sediment and organic material found naturally in our sources of water accumulate inside distribution pipes. When we conduct unidirectional flushing, we close valves, isolate sections of the pipe, and use pressured water to clear out material using an opened fire hydrant.

Cleaning the inside of our water mains is an essential part and planned investment in maintaining the health of our water system. There are several ways to conduct flushing. We chose the unidirectional method because it is a better, more effective approach to clearing out sediment, requires less water over more traditional methods, and impacts to customers are far less.

### **TIMELINES**

Camrosa has contracted with M.E. Simpson, Co., Inc. to perform the work. We will begin work to flush pipes on April 29, 2024. The flushing program will last until the first week of August. Work will be from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday - Saturday. The following are the planned flushing timelines. Please note they may change slightly depending on field conditions.

- Zone 1B: From April 29<sup>th</sup> until the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August.
- Zone 2A/2B: From April 29<sup>th</sup> until the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May.
- Zone 3/3C/3D: From 1<sup>st</sup> week of June until the 4<sup>th</sup> week of June.
- Zone 4A/4A Read Rd/4B/4C: From 1<sup>st</sup> week of July until the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July.
- Zone 4C Hydro: From 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July until the 4<sup>th</sup> week of July.

Please see the Pressure Zone Map below for more information.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

- Water flushing is safe, and your water is safe to use. During and up to a day, customers might see temporary discolorations, taste, and odors from flushing. Do not be alarmed—this is normal.
- You should not see any changes to your water supplies including water pressure just temporary changes in water characteristics.
- Because we are flushing pipes throughout your neighborhood, changes in water quality might be intermittent.
- You might see water flowing from our hydrants when we are conducting flushing activities. This is part of the process.
- Crews will be on residential streets and near hydrants. We do not anticipate any closures to streets. However, please drive carefully when crews are in the area.

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Is flushing safe? Yes. Temporary discoloration during this process only affects the appearance of the water – it does not cause a health or safety risk.

What should I do on the days flushing occurs? To prevent discolored water from entering the household plumbing, avoid using tap water or running appliances (like washing clothes) until flushing is complete. While discolored water is present, customers might choose to drink bottled water or water from their stored emergency water supplies. If you notice discolored water, run cold water from one faucet for 2-3 minutes to see if it clears. If it does not clear, wait an hour and try again.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

600 gpm

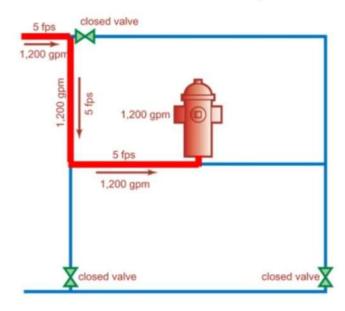
Please contact (805) 388-0226 for more information or if you have any questions.

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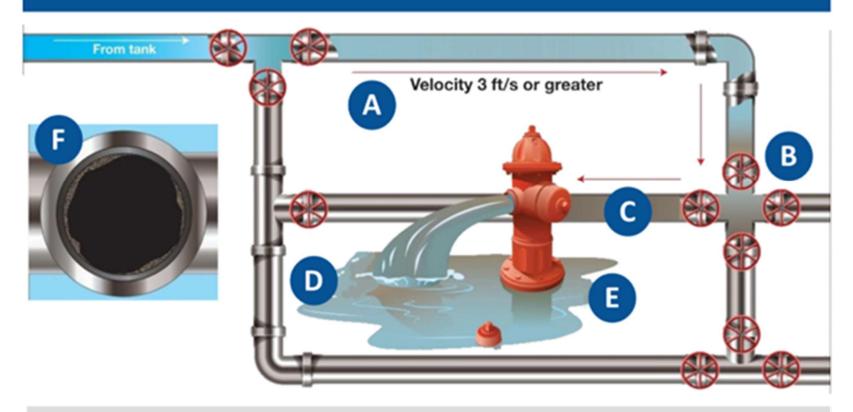
284 gpm

Conventional Flushing

# **Unidirectional Flushing**



# The Benefits of Unidirectional Flushing



- A Velocity of water is much higher in UDF than in Conventional Flushing, providing better pipe scouring.
- B UDF, allowing water systems to locate broken or closed valves. Exercising hydrants and valves prolongs their life.
- During Conventional Flushing, dirty water is recirculated through the system, whereas UDF forces water in one direction, from a clean source through a dirty pipe, providing superior wall cleaning.
- Sediment, corrosion, and biofilm are forcefully flushed out during UDF, whereas they remain circulating in the system during conventional flushing.
- UDF actually uses up to 40% less water than conventional flushing.
- Conventional Flushing does not produce a high enough velocity to adequately scour pipe walls,

# **CAMROSA WATER DISTRICT - PRESSURE ZONE MAP**

