

# Information for Public Water Users

## Flushing Your Indoor Plumbing

Follow these steps if you are advised to flush your plumbing.

### Step 1. Flush cold water system

- ▶ Turn on all indoor cold water faucets, including every sink, shower, and bathtub.
- ▶ Run the cold water for **5 minutes**.
- ▶ Shut off all indoor cold water faucets.

### Step 2. Flush hot water system

- ▶ Turn on all indoor hot water faucets, including every sink, shower, and bathtub.
- ▶ Run hot water for **15 minutes**. This will replace the water in your hot water tank with filtered water.
- ▶ Shut off all indoor hot water faucets.

### Step 3. Flush fixtures and appliances

- ▶ **Flush each toilet at least once**. There is no limit on using or flushing toilets during the flushing process.
- ▶ **Refrigerator water lines and ice makers:**
  - Flush refrigerator water dispensers for **5 minutes**.
  - Consider replacing any refrigerator water filters. Follow manufacturer instructions.
  - Discard your ice from your freezer. If you have an automatic ice maker, make/discard 5 batches of ice.
  - Clean the ice container with warm water and soap before using it.
- ▶ **Other water-using appliances:**
  - Run dishwashers, washing machines, and other appliances through one cycle while empty.
  - Discard water and clean coffee makers, humidifiers, oral, medical or health care devices, or other appliances that may have had contact with contaminated water. Contact the manufacturer if you have questions about cleaning.

### Step 4. In-home filtration units, filtered water dispensers (point of use devices), and water softeners

- ▶ Take steps to clean water filtration systems, backwash (regenerate) water softeners, and consider replacing filters. Follow manufacturer instructions.

