

# TOWN OF NORTH READING



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### Fall 2019 Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

North Reading Water Department, as part of the maintenance of the water distribution system, began the annual fire hydrant flushing program on September 23 and this program will continue until late in October.

Hydrant flushing is used to remove any fine iron or manganese sediment from the water mains in the streets. Iron and manganese are naturally occurring minerals found in the soils near the Town's water supply wells. As precipitation passes down through these soils, iron and manganese dissolve into the water. While the Water Department treats the well water specifically to remove iron and manganese, trace amounts of these minerals remain in the water leaving our water treatment plants. This remaining dissolved iron and manganese combine with oxygen in the water to form fine particles that settle out of the water in the water distribution system.

Iron and manganese do not present health risks, but can cause a number of aesthetic problems, such as discolored water and staining of plumbing fixtures or laundry. The fine particles of iron and manganese in the water mains can easily become re-suspended whenever there is a change in flow in the water system, such as during a fire or other periods of high water usage. By creating the high flow conditions through hydrant flushing, the Water Department attempts to remove the color-causing particles in a systematic manner.

The flushing program begins in the area of the water supply sources and moves progressively across the town, using areas that have already been cleaned to provide the water to areas yet to be flushed.

Flushing will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, typically between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Residents and business owners are cautioned that they may experience discolored water during the hours of flushing in their area.

For additional information on the flushing program, please contact the Department of Public Works at (978) 664-6060.

### Hydrant Flushing Schedule - Fall, 2019

#### Day 20 – Monday, October 28

Elm Street (from Turner Drive to Fairview Street)	Jacob Raynor Lane James Millen Road John Pierson Lane	Oliver Swain Drive Samuel Phelps Way Tarbox Lane
Hannah Graves Way	MacIntyre Drive	

#### Day 21 – Wednesday, October 30

Elm Street (from Fairview Street to Middleton Town Line)	Gillis Drive Green Meadow Drive Hayward Avenue	Joanne Terrace Judith Drive Lisa Lane
Fairview Street	Hayward Farms Lane	Riverside Drive