

Wise Water Use Tips for People Concerned about Lead in Water *With Lead Service Lines*

It has been recommended that people **with lead service lines** flush their lines for 10 minutes before using the water to drink or cook when the water has not been used for 6-8 hours. There are several ways you can follow this recommendation and continue to use water wisely!

- After flushing, store water in a clean container and have plenty of drinking water stored in the refrigerator for early morning use.
- As part of your flushing routine run your washing machine or dishwasher first thing in the morning, be sure to wash full loads each time!
- Use water during flushing to hand wash dishes.
- Save flushed water and use it to soak dirty pots and pans or dirty laundry that needs extra attention.
- Water your lawn or wash your car in the morning as part of your 10 minute flushing routine.
- Two residents each taking a five minute shower will satisfy the 10 minute flushing recommendation.
- Use captured water to shave.
- Capture flushed water that would normally be wasted to water plants.
- Use flushed water to bathe pets or refill fish tanks.



www.mwcog.org/environment

For more information on lead and drinking water:
www.mwcog.org/environment/water/watersupply/lead



Wise Water Use Tips for People Concerned about Lead in Water WITHOUT LEAD SERVICE LINES

It has been recommended that people who DO NOT have lead service lines but are concerned about lead or who live in houses built prior to 1986 flush their faucets for 60-90 seconds before using the water to drink or cook, if the faucet has not been used for 6 hours or more. There are several ways you can follow this recommendation and continue to use water wisely!

- ❖ After flushing, store water in clean containers and have plenty of drinking water stored in the refrigerator for early morning use.
- ❖ While flushing your faucet, don't just let the water run, wash your hands!
- ❖ Use water during flushing to hand wash or rinse dishes.
- ❖ Save flushed water and use it to soak dirty pots and pans or dirty laundry that needs extra attention.
- ❖ Use water from the faucet you are flushing to shave.
- ❖ Capture flushed water that would normally be wasted to water plants or wash your car.
- ❖ Use flushed water to bathe pets or refill fish tanks.



www.mwcog.org/environment

For more information on lead and drinking water: www.mwcog.org/environment/water/watersupply/lead

