

# Milwaukee Water Works

## Now that your water service has been connected to the new water main...

...the interior plumbing in the house should be thoroughly flushed. This will clear the pipes of any particles that may have come loose during construction. This thorough flushing of the pipes is especially important if any part of the water service connecting the house to the water main in the street is made of lead.

**This procedure should be followed as soon as possible after the house has been connected to the new water main.**

The objective is to get the highest possible water flows through the pipes to loosen any particles and to flush those particles into the drain.

### Here's how to do it:

- Step 1. Start at the lowest level in house (e.g., basement). If possible, remove screens and aerators from all faucets on this floor. (The aerator is located at the tip of the faucet that includes a screen. A rubber jar opener or pliers may be needed.)
- Step 2. Open all faucets on the **COLD** water setting. Make sure that the water is going to the drain. Keep the taps open and proceed to Step 3.
- Step 3. Move to next highest floor in the house. If possible, remove screens and aerators from all faucets on this floor and fully open them on the **COLD** water setting. Make sure that the water is going to the drain. Again, keep all taps open and proceed to Step 4.
- Step 4. Repeat if there are higher floors.
- Step 5. Once the top floor in the house is reached and all faucets in the house are open, continue running all faucets for 5-10 minutes.
- Step 6. After 5-10 minutes, turn off all faucets starting at the top floor and working your way down to the lowest level in the house.
- Step 7. Re-attach any screens and aerators that were removed.