

## **Public Notice: Unidirectional Flushing**

As you are likely aware, the Town of Louisa is currently working on various maintenance services and repairs for the water distribution system. These activities are necessary to improve water quality within the distribution system and maintain the integrity of fire protection services. We want to share some key details with you on upcoming work, making sure you continue to stay informed and are assured about this initiative.

### **What to Expect:**

The Town will execute unidirectional flushing (UDF). Daily activities will involve servicing and flushing fire hydrants. Activities are scheduled to minimize disruption to the normal flow of traffic; however, there may be some unavoidable disturbances as is typical of maintenance activities. Contractors will be accompanied by Town staff, starting work at approximately 7:00 a.m. Work will only be scheduled on weekdays, Monday through Friday. UDF activities are expected to start March 30<sup>th</sup> and will last anywhere between one to three weeks. During this activity, there may be disturbances to the water supply, water pressure, and possibly watercolor. This is expected and is temporary; operations should return to normal within a few hours.

### **General FAQs:**

#### ***What is the purpose of hydrant exercising?***

The main purpose of the unidirectional flushing is to improve water quality within the distribution system by removing sediment, debris, and mineral deposits that can accumulate within the pipes. This action also extends the longevity of watermains and hydrants by ensuring proper maintenance is occurring.

#### ***How does hydrant flushing work?***

The hydrants are opened in a controlled manner to release water at a fast pace. Running hydrants will increase water flow through the system. This increase in flow stirs up any minerals and deposits in the pipes and clears them out.

#### ***Can I still use water during the flushing process?***

Flushing will not interrupt your water service; however, it is common to see a temporary drop in water pressure while crews are doing work in your area.

#### ***Is my water safe to drink after hydrants have been flushed in my area?***

Water can become temporarily discolored after flushing; however, this is due to iron and other minerals in the water main being stirred up. The water is still safe to drink. If you are impacted by discoloration, run your cold water tap for a few minutes until the water is clear. If it is not clear the first time, wait a few minutes and repeat this process. (NOTE: It may take as much as fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minutes to flush the line clear.) Avoid all customary duties (laundry, washing dishes, etc.) until the flushing is complete and your water clears.

#### ***Who is performing the work?***

The Town has coordinated with CHA Consulting, Inc. and Hydromax USA to perform the fieldwork; however, they will be accompanied by Town staff.

#### ***Who can I contact if I have further questions or concerns?***

Town Manager Stuart Turille can be reached at 540-967-1400.