

Lehigh County Authority – Allentown Division

2026 Flushing Program

In our effort to provide our customers with high quality drinking water, Lehigh County Authority (LCA) maintains a water main flushing program. During flushing operations, fire hydrants and blow-offs are systematically opened around the district and water is allowed to flow quickly through the pipes. This increased velocity scours and cleans the pipe walls, flushes sediment from the mainline pipes, and removes aging water from the distribution system. It also verifies the proper operation of hydrants and valves, maintains firefighting capability, and ultimately improves water quality.

When and where will LCA be conducting water system flushing?

LCA's crews conduct flushing in neighborhoods on a regular rotation. Notice is provided to customers in our quarterly billing newsletter and posted on our website at www.lehighcountyauthority.org. A tentative flushing schedule for 2026 is shown on page 2.

Customer Information About Flushing:

What should you do when LCA is flushing in your area?

If you see a crew flushing a hydrant on your street, *avoid running tap water, using the washing machine, or running the dishwasher until the flushing is complete* to avoid drawing discolored water into your home plumbing. If possible, completely avoid using your hot water as this may draw discolored water into your hot water heater allowing the discoloration to persist for long periods of time.

Safety Notice: If you see hydrant flushing crews working in the area, please drive carefully and treat them like any other road construction crew.

What should you do after flushing in your area is completed?

After flushing is done in your area, turn on your cold-water tap. If the water looks discolored, turn it off and wait a few minutes before trying again. Let the tap run for a few minutes to bring in fresh water. Sometimes, the water may stay slightly discolored for a few hours. If you plan to do laundry, start with a dark load using cold water. If the water pressure seems low, check your faucet screens for any trapped particles.

Brown Water Notice: Discoloration of your water after system flushing only affects the appearance of the water and there are no health risks. However, if brown water persists for a long period of time after system flushing is completed (more than a few hours), feel free to contact LCA at 610-437-7515.

2026 Flushing Schedule:

The 2026 flushing schedule is shown below and should be considered as tentative depending on the weather.

March 9–22: Ward 3 and Ward 13 (96 hydrants)

Center City, south of Hamilton, between 7th and 19th Streets

March 23 – April 5: Ward 18 (90 hydrants)

West Allentown, south of Hamilton, west of 19th Street

April 6 –26: Ward 7 and Ward 11 (153 hydrants)

Center City, north of Hamilton, between 9th and 26th Street

April 27 – May 17: Ward 17 (196 hydrants)

West Allentown, north of Hamilton, west of 22nd Street

May 18 –31: Ward 8 and Ward 11 (98 hydrants)

North Allentown, north of Gordon Street, between 7th and 22nd Streets

June 1–21: Ward 12 (182 hydrants)

South Allentown, south of the Little Lehigh Creek and west of the railroad tracks,
From Trout Creek Park to Bicentennial Park and in the Queen City Airport area

June 22 –28: Ward 1, 2, 5 and 4 (79 hydrants)

Center City, both north and south of Hamilton, between 4th and 9th Streets

June 29 –July 5: Ward 10 (65 hydrants)

North Allentown, east of 7th Street, between Liberty Street and Sumner Avenue

July 6 –19: Ward 8 (100 hydrants)

North Allentown, west of 7th Street, between Liberty Street and Sumner Avenue

July 20 –26: Ward 9 and Ward 6 (77 hydrants)

Center City, north of Hamilton, east of Law Street and following north up along the Lehigh River

July 27 – August 9: Ward 14 (97 hydrants)

East Allentown, east of the Lehigh River, from Keck Park north up to the East Side Fire Station

***August 10 – 30: Ward 15 (Minus the high elevation system) (225 hydrants)**

East Allentown, north and east of the East Side Fire station, and then south toward the former Allentown State Hospital location

***August 31 – September 6: Ward 16 (Minus the high elevation system) (73 hydrants)**

South Allentown, south of the Lehigh River and east of the railroad tracks, south down to Chapel Avenue

***September 7–27: Ward 19 (Minus the high elevation system) (183 hydrants)**

South Allentown, south and east of Trout Creek Park, down to the South Mountain Reservoir and Park area.

*After these areas are completed the high elevation system will be flushed at nighttime from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. There are 105 hydrants in these areas, which include Ward 15, 16, 19 and 28th St. The high elevation hydrants in the system are silver and black in color.