

## Covington Water District's Unidirectional Flushing Program

The District will begin a new unidirectional flushing (UDF) program in October of 2006.

### What is Unidirectional Flushing?

It is a method of cleaning the water mainlines through a network of flushing sequences with the water being discharged from a fire hydrant. A UDF program involves closing valves in a specific sequence to create water movement in one direction while opening specific fire hydrants at the end of that sequence.



The UDF technique allows higher water flow velocities by isolating certain sections of water mains. The higher water velocity allows for better scouring of the pipes and will use 40% less water in the flushing process than conventional flushing methods. Flushing pipes at higher velocities will dislodge and remove mineral deposits and sediment that accumulate in the water mains.

### Why is the District Flushing?

Water mains are flushed to remove sediment and mineral deposits from the pipes to maintain water clarity and quality. In addition it gives District personnel the opportunity to operate valves and fire hydrants and to address any problems encountered. This helps to assure that hydrants and valves are in good working order.

### How Will You Be Affected?

You probably will not even be aware that flushing is taking place in your neighborhood. Flushing will generally be conducted between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Select hydrants in each neighborhood will be opened for flushing. While the hydrants are open, the homes on that block may experience discolored water or a slight drop in pressure however; your water service should not be interrupted.

### If You Are Experiencing Discolored Water:

Should a reddish, yellow or brown tint appear in the water, do not be alarmed. **It is recommended that you do not use the water or do laundry for about two (2) hours.** After you have waited, run your hose bibs for a few minutes to make sure the water is clear at which time you may resume normal water use.

If the water does not clear within a few hours please notify the District at 253-631-0565.