



## Hydrant Flushing Program

Occasionally, you may notice AMUC crews flushing fire hydrants and see large volumes of water running down the street. Your first thought may be that we are ignoring our own philosophy of conserving water. Throughout the year we flush water lines through the use of fire hydrants, which is an important preventive maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, the process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system allowing us to continue to deliver the highest quality water possible to our customers.



**Top image:** Unmanned hydrant flushing  
**Left image:** Automatic flushing device



### What should I do during or after Hydrant flushing?

Nothing. Please go about your normal routine. Please note that in rare instances, flushing may cause temporary discoloration of the water. While rare, this discoloration does not present a health risk and the water is absolutely safe to drink. Running the water in your home for a few minutes should clear up any noted discoloration or cloudiness.

### Is flushing a waste of water?

No, however this is an understandable misconception. The volume and cost of the water is minimal and is money well-invested. Please be assured AMUC is committed to protecting public safety, improving water quality and dedicated to properly maintaining the water distribution system.

### What happens to the flushed water?

Water is returned safely to the environment where it re-enters the natural water cycle.

**Call us at (239) 348 – 0248 with any questions or visit us on the web at [www.amuc.com](http://www.amuc.com)**

Ave Maria Utility Company (AMUC) flushes fire hydrants throughout the town only when required as part of our operation and maintenance program. AMUC samples and tests the water in the distribution system to determine when flushing is required.

There are various reasons you may see hydrants being flushed in your neighborhood.

- To maintain safe disinfection levels
- Fire hydrant testing and maintenance
- In response to taste and/or odor complaints

AMUC must adhere to strict regulations from several regulatory agencies, (i.e., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, Southwest Florida Water Management District) when flushing hydrants. Even during times of severe drought and water conservation measures, water quality test results in dead-end areas and/or neighborhoods with low or seasonal populations could indicate the need for flushing.

Flushing fire hydrants is one of the most important maintenance practices that can be performed on a water distribution system. The time involved in flushing can vary from a few minutes to several hours depending on the circumstances (size and length of water main and population served.)

If you see hydrant flushing crews working in the area, exercise caution and drive carefully through any flooded areas of roadway.