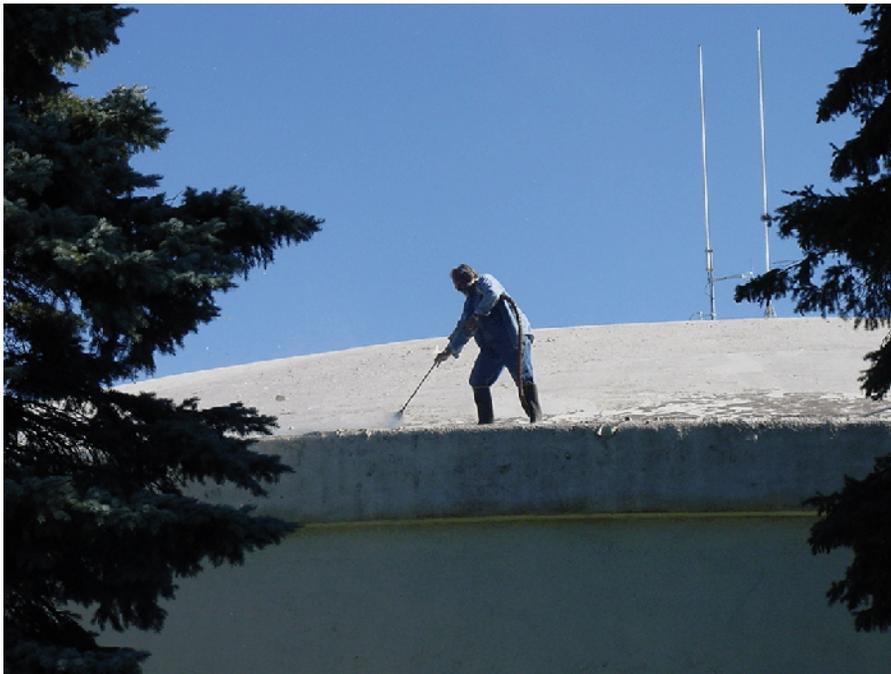


Elm St. Reservoir Gets Facelift



Hi-Lo Service of Wausau started cleaning the Elm Street Reservoir in mid-August using a water blasting method (as shown in photo at right) to remove the old surface and clean the reservoir.



Northland Painting and Cleaning of Wausau will begin painting the reservoir shortly after Labor Day. The painting process is expected to take approximately one week, depending on weather.

Fall Hydrant Flush Begins Sept. 11



Utility crews will begin flushing fire hydrants Monday night, September 11, 2006, as part of an annual maintenance program. Flushing accomplishes two tasks; first, it cleans

the mains of mineral buildup, and secondly, it ensures that all hydrants are in good operating order.

The majority of the flushing is performed during the evening hours from 9:00 p.m. until about 4:00 a.m., during which time more than 1400 hydrants will be flushed. This process takes approximately three weeks to finish. **A complete schedule is printed on page 3 of this newsletter.**

Residents are urged to avoid water use when the flushing occurs near their neighborhood, especially for laundry purposes, as it may stain clothing. Water softeners should also be bypassed during this time. Some homeowners may experience very low pressure during the flushing process. As flushing occurs in your neighborhood, businesses and homes may experience dirty water for a short period of time. Flushing in the Riverview, Northwestern, Highway U, Industrial Park, and the high pressure zone around 28th Avenue reservoir will take place during the day, the week of September 25-29, 2006.



Ask Professor Faucet

Can disposable diapers be flushed down my toilet?

Diapers, whether for infants or adults, should NEVER be flushed down the toilet. They should be placed in garbage containers. Flushing diapers can cause blockages in your sewer laterals or the mains in the streets.

What other items should I avoid flushing? *Personal hygiene products, wash cloths, clothing, paper towels, cleaning wipes and floor cleaning sheets should never be flushed. These items, as with diapers, can also cause blockages in both sewer laterals and mains.*

What is the best way to handle grease? Can I use hot water and dishwashing detergent to break it down? *Grease can be another troublesome issue. It should be wiped from cookware and deposited in the garbage. Even though some dishwashing detergents advertise that they take away the grease, what can actually happen is that it washes it further into the lateral or main, where it can bind up and eventually cause blockages either for you, or your neighbors.*

We just installed a garbage disposal. Is there anything special we need to know? *Garbage disposals can be convenient in eliminating table scraps, etc., but homeowners should be advised to use plenty of hot water when using a garbage disposal, otherwise food scraps, and associated grease may accumulate until they eventually plug the line.*

If I have a sewer backup, does Wausau Water Works pay for the damage that is caused? *Not always. Our insurance carrier needs to find liability in order to pay on a sewer backup. If a main has been cleaned*

and properly maintained, often there will be no coverage to the homeowner for damages caused by a sewer backup. This determination will be made by our insurance provider.

Often, tree roots find their way into laterals. These types of blockages also are not the responsibility of Wausau Water Works, and claims filed are normally denied by our insurance provider.

Should I add a rider to my homeowner's policy for sewer backups? *That is always a good idea. Having sewer backup coverage can help you out in this type of situation, especially if damages or cleanup costs are significant. We recommend that you contact your homeowner's insurance agent for more information.*

Past Due Notices to be Mailed Soon

Customers with past due bills as of September 20th will receive delinquent notices in early October. Payments can be made on these delinquent bills by November 1, at no additional charge. However, a 10% late payment fee will be added after November 1.

Delinquent amounts outstanding as of November 15 will be transferred to the property taxes for the address where service was provided.

Notices for delinquent amounts owed on rental properties are forwarded to the owner of the property, not to the tenant.

Recent Retiree

Dennis Sefton, a Certified Wastewater Plant Operator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, retired on July 17. Dennis worked at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for 35 years. We thank Dennis for his many years of dedicated service to Wausau Water Works and wish him the best with his retirement.

Employee Transfers and Promotions

Congratulations are extended to Mark Hilgendorf who was recently promoted to the position of Plant Maintenance Mechanic at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Prior to his promotion, Mark worked on the Sewer Collection crew.

We also would like to welcome Scott Boers, who transferred from the Department of Public Works. Scott will be working for the Drinking Water Division as a Water Distribution Maintainer Operator.

Wausau Water Works wishes both of these gentlemen the best in their new positions.

Fascinating Facts About Water

How Heavy is water??

One US gallon of water weighs about 8.3 pounds. If you use 100 gallons of water in your home each day (a reasonable amount for two people, you are using more than 830 pounds of manufactured product each day, about 150 tons each year.

Water is so heavy that on a tonnage production basis, the water supply industry is by far the largest in the United States and Canada. In the United States, it produces in 16 hours as great a tonnage as the output of the oil industry in a year, in a single day as much tonnage as the steel industry does in an entire year, and in a week a tonnage equal to the yearly output of all of the bituminous coal producers - truly a monumental daily quantity of product.

Why should I wash my hands in hot water?

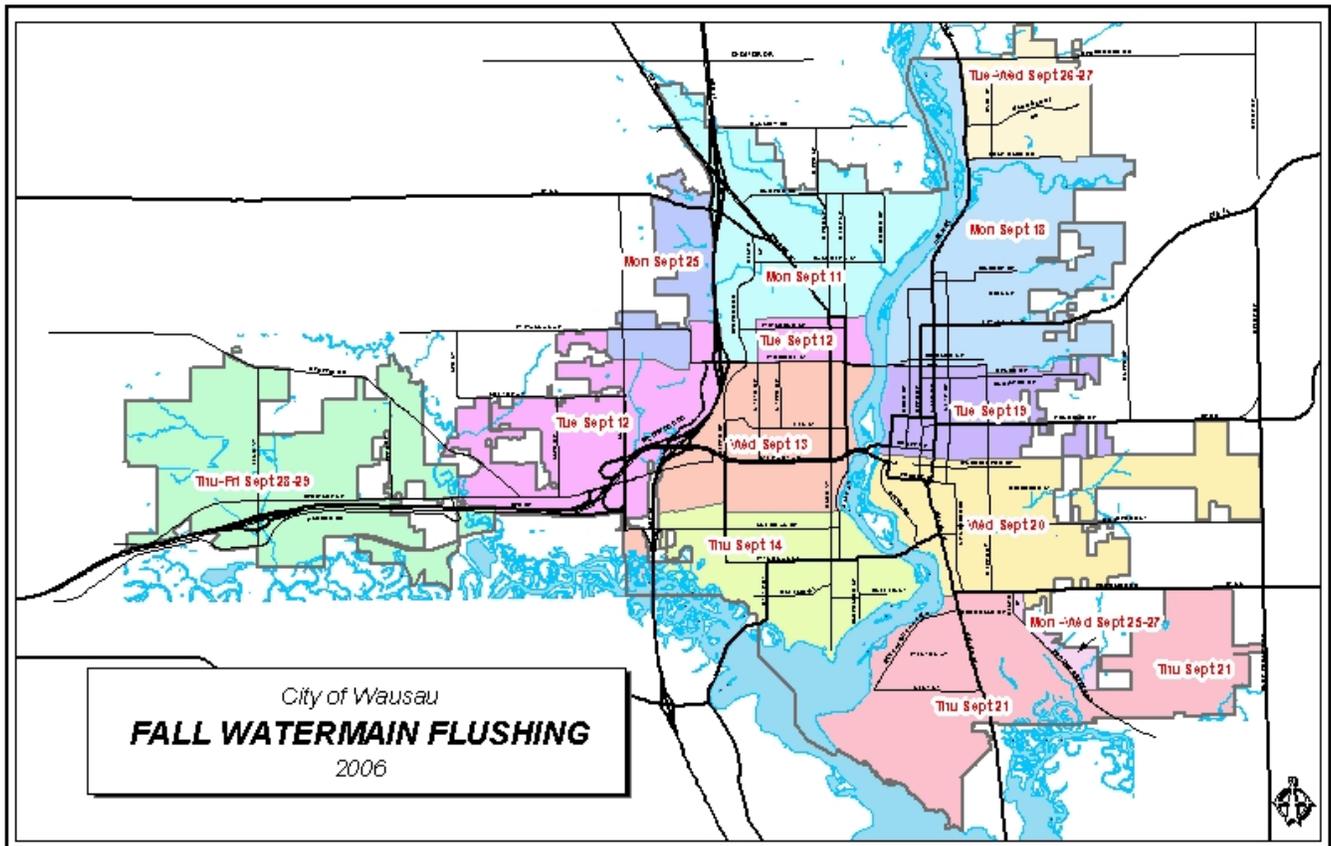
Many of the things you are trying to get off your hands are somewhat greasy, dirt and germs, for example. You know what happens when you put a container of liquid grease in the refrigerator; it gets hard. You want the

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FALL WATERMAIN FLUSHING SCHEDULE

Utility crews will flush watermains, through the operation of hydrants, from 9 p.m. until about 4 a.m. (except as noted below). You may want to draw a supply of water prior to your area being flushed. Please be aware adjacent neighborhoods to the area being flushed may experience dirty water for short periods of time.

Avoid water use during the scheduled flush, for laundry purposes especially, and the use of bleach in your laundry should also be avoided, as it may stain your clothing. It is also suggested that you bypass water softeners during this time. Please be aware that some homeowners may experience very low pressure during the flushing process.



FLUSHING SCHEDULE - WEST SIDE

Monday night, September 11	Union Avenue North to City Limits
Tuesday night, September 12	Wausau Avenue South to Bridge Street and Pinecrest Area to Stettin Drive, west to 48 th Avenue and north to Hilltop Avenue
Wednesday night, September 13	Bridge Street South to Sherman Street
Thursday night, September 14	Sherman Street South to City Limits

EAST SIDE

Monday night, September 18	Bridge Street North to Sylvan Street and 6 th Street to City Limits (Evergreen Road), Riverview Court and Riverview Drive
Tuesday night, September 19	Bridge Street South to Jefferson Street
Wednesday night, September 20	Jefferson Street South to Town Line Road
Thursday night, September 21	Town Line Road South to City Limits

OTHER AREAS - (Flushing Performed during the day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

Monday, September 25	High Pressure Zone by 28 th Avenue Reservoir, Highway U, Northwestern Avenue
Tues. and Wed., September 26-27	Riverview Area and Northwestern Avenue Area
Thurs. and Fri., September 28-29	Industrial Park Area

Fascinating Facts -

(Continued from page 2)

greasy things on your hands to be soft, so the soap or detergent can get at it and lift it off of your skin. Using hot water helps the cleanser work well and clean your hands better.

Are raindrops shaped like teardrops?

According to the US Geological Survey's Internet site, small raindrops (with a diameter of less than 0.1 inch) are shaped like a sphere; larger ones are shaped more like a hamburger bun. When raindrops get larger than a diameter of 0.4 inch, they get distorted into a shape rather like a parachute with a tube of water around the base, and then they break up into smaller drops.



What activity in my home uses the most water?

Toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home. Most toilets use from 4 to 6 gallons of water for each flush. On the average, a dishwasher uses about 50 percent less water than the amount used when you wash and rinse dishes by hand, as long as the dishes are not pre-rinsed, and dishwasher is only ran when full.

Without counting lawn watering, typical percentages of water use for a family of four are:

- Toilet flushing - 40%
- Bath and shower - 32%
- Laundry - 14%
- Dishwashing - 6%
- Cooking and drinking - 5%
- Bathroom sink - 3%

In the United States, the National Energy Act of 1992 requires low-volume toilets in new construction, or as replacement in existing homes after January 1, 1994. Businesses were to have complied by 1997.

Ultra-low-flow (ULF) toilets are available that use only 1.5 to 1.6 gallons for each flush.

Which uses more water, a tub bath or a shower?

That depends on many factors: how big your tub is, how long you shower, how fast the water comes out of your showerhead, whether or not you turn off the water while soaping, and so forth. Answer this question yourself by closing the drain when you shower and see if you get a tub full of water. Don't try this in a shower stall.

I leave the water running while I brush my teeth. Does this waste much water?

You bet! Leaving the water running is a bad habit; about 4 to 6 gallons of water goes down the drain needlessly every time you brush. Turning off the water when you are not using it will save water and save you money.

Source: Plain Talk About Drinking Water - Third and Fourth Editions - American Water Works Association