

[The City of Newport Public Works](#)  
169 S.W. Coast Highway  
Newport, OR 97365  
Coast Guard City, U.S.A.



phone: 541.574.3366  
fax: 541.265.3301  
[www.newportoregon.gov](http://www.newportoregon.gov)  
Home Port of NOAA Pacific Fleet

## MEDIA RELEASE

May 10, 2016

For immediate release: Water line pressure testing may result in “brown water” issues

Contact Person: Lanny Schulze, City of Newport Water Distribution Supervisor  
541-270-2009 (or Public Works main office: 541-574-3366)

Beginning Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, the City of Newport Water Distribution Division will begin mandatory testing of water line pressures, requiring the opening of fire hydrants. Newport residents in some areas of town will probably experience some “brown water” issues continuing for about two days. The color is due to a harmless sediment that normally lies dormant in the water mains but gets stirred up when large amounts of water are pushed through the lines at higher-than-normal flow rates.

If you are experiencing brown water during this testing phase, please be advised the water is safe to drink if needed. You may want to stock up on some bottled water; also, water is available at no charge at the city shops and city hall if you want to fill containers. Additionally, we advise against doing any laundry during this time. Once the testing is completed, you can flush your water lines by opening the cold water taps in your house and the hose bibs in your yard for about 15 minutes or until the water runs clear.

We understand this is an inconvenience for our customers and we appreciate your patience.

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