

# Martinborough town water flush

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MARTINBOROUGH BUSINESSES

Below are answers to questions and concerns you may have about the planned town water flush scheduled for 7pm Friday 15 February to 7am Saturday 16 February.

**Is it a chlorine flush and is the water that's going to come out of the taps going to be blue/black?**

**NO CHLORINE IS BEING ADDED TO THE WATER.** This water flush is with UV-treated water. No chemicals have been added. The discolouration/dirty looking water that you may experience is because granules within the bottom of the pipe network may be disturbed by the flushing.

Running your taps for at least 15 minutes should clear this. If not, run the water for longer until it water clears.

Working with Wellington Water and Regional Public Health, Council has made every effort to design an effective flushing plan **WITHOUT CHLORINE** to minimise disruption to businesses and the community.

**Is there anything in the water that's going to harm my coffee machine or water filter?**

No.

**What is meant by a flush?**

UV-treated water, three times the volume of the water network, will be pumped through the system at normal pressure and released from hydrants.

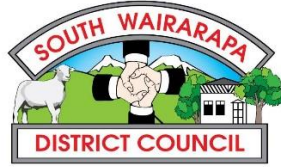
This process is done routinely throughout the year to sections of the system at a time.

The difference this time, is we are doing the whole system, section by section, within a 12-hour period.

**If it's like a routine flushing, why are we being warned about it?**

Because we've had a contamination event, as a precaution we are asking people to run their taps so we can have confidence that the water in the pipeline between the toby on the

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street and your property/business has been replaced with new, clean water, before the boil water notice is lifted. It's precautionary, in the interests of public health.

**Why are you doing this on a Friday at the start of a busy weekend for accommodation and cafes?**

The choice was to do the flush as soon as we were ready or delay it until after the weekend, which would further delay the removal of the boiled water notice, leading to further inconvenience.

**What if the guests in my accommodation don't follow the running tap instructions?**

We are advising a best practice approach to give confidence there is no contaminated water in the pipe to your property. Running the tap is also to check that the water is clear.

Fifteen minutes has been advised to allow for the longest pipe between the toby on the street and a property. A house closer to the street wouldn't take nearly so long to refill with water.

The most important thing is that guests continue to follow the boil water notice, until it is lifted.

**ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?**

Please contact Council on 06 306 9611 (including out of hours).

Further information about this event is available on our website ([swdc.govt.nz](http://swdc.govt.nz)) and Facebook page (South Wairarapa District Council).

If you have any further non-urgent comments or feedback on our response to this event, please email us at [martinboroughwater@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:martinboroughwater@swdc.govt.nz).

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