



CHENEY CONNECTIONS

www.cityofcheney.org

City of Cheney - 609 Second Street, Cheney, WA 99004

Water Department Flushing Lines

Cheney Water Department: (509) 498-9293

www.cityofcheney.org/water

The Cheney Water Department will soon start flushing sediment from its lines throughout the city. This is a common practice among water utilities to remove iron and other minerals which build up in the lines over time. **This will cause brief periods of discolored water.** The discolored water is generally safe to drink, but it's advised not to drink discolored water because it may have a bad taste. Due to the nature of the procedure, it is difficult to predict when or where discolored water may occur because opening lines on one end of the city may disturb sediment on the other side of the city.

What are they doing? Cheney Water crews will move throughout the city and open one fire hydrant at a time to pump large amounts of water through the system and remove sediment in the pipes.

When will this happen? Crews will start flushing water lines starting in April and work until the whole system is addressed.

How long will this be going on? The City of Cheney has approximately 500 hydrants throughout the city. To ensure that the whole city is addressed, crews will be opening each hydrant and waiting until the water turns clear. Depending on the amount of built up sediment, this may take several hours for each area. It is therefore difficult to predict when crews will show up in your neighborhood.

Why do this in the first place? Fighting built up minerals is something that water utilities experience. This approach of flushing the entire city provides an efficient, and cost-effective way to provide clean water to Cheney residents. Once this process is complete, yearly flushing will be faster.

What if I stain my clothes? It is advised that you don't wash laundry while your water is discolored. Contact the Water Department at (509) 498-9293 for a list of products which may remove mineral stains.

"Flushable" Does Not Mean Flushable!

Toilets are designed to accept water, human waste, toilet paper, **and nothing else!** Many items are advertised as flushable; but when they are flushed down the toilet, they don't disintegrate. They plug up house drains, service lines, sewer mains, pumps, and treatment facilities. This causes backups that are expensive to clean up, and increases maintenance costs for our sewer system.

To avoid these problems, **please put in the trash:** cleaning wipes, moist towelettes, diapers, cotton balls, and any paper products other than toilet paper.

Please keep the wipes out of our pipes!



Meeting Dates & Events

- Apr 2: Historic Preservation Commission, 5:15 pm, City Council Chambers - **CANCELLED**
- Apr 8: Park Board, 6 pm, Wren Pierson Com. Ctr. - **CANCELLED**
- Apr 11: Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt is **CANCELLED**
- Apr 13: Planning Commission, 6:00 pm, Council Chambers - **CANCELLED**
- Apr 13-16: Large Item Pickup is **POSTPONED**
- Apr 14: City Council, 6 pm, Council Chambers
- Apr 18: Cheney Clean Sweep, All Day, Veterans' Memorial Park - **POSTPONED**
- Apr 28: City Council, 6 pm. Council Chambers

COVID-19: The City of Cheney will continue working closely with the Spokane Regional Health District to monitor the situation and will take the appropriate action if necessary. To learn more about local preparation, prevention and additional resources, please visit the City of Cheney COVID-19 page at: <https://www.cityofcheney.org/449/COVID-19>.

Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

Spring is nearing and everyone's thoughts are turning to yard work. It is important that when you turn on your sprinkler system for the year that you have your backflow assembly device properly tested to be certain it is functioning properly. The city will be sending out backflow assembly annual test notifications in the next few weeks along with the approved Backflow Assembly Testers list and test form.

Why is annual backflow assembly testing necessary?

Backflow assembly devices are very important to protect your household from chemical and bacterial contamination being drawn into your plumbing system from your irrigation system. Your irrigation system or other household cross connect is like an open straw if not isolated from your household water system. These contaminants can enter your house plumbing as well as the public water system making you or others sick. Not only does the backflow assembly protect your health, but it also protects you from potential legal and financial liabilities that could result from a public water system contamination occurring from your residence.

Why test annually?

The backflow assembly device requires testing annually because it is subject to blockages from water deposits or debris, worn seals springs and gaskets, and possibly being cracked from cold temperatures if not completely drained each winter.

We would like to thank everyone for their cooperation in getting our cross connection program up and running in 2019. Of the nearly 2000 surveys sent out to our customers, over 90 percent have replied and are now in compliance with the program. If you have any questions or need further information about cross connection and backflow prevention, please call the Public Works Department at 509-498-9293 or visit our website at: www.cityofcheney.org/207/water.



Clean Green Pickup Resumes April 1

Our Solid Waste Division offers a curbside pickup of "clean green" yard waste April through October. The service provides one 96-gallon cart and weekly service through October. The fee for clean green cart service is \$12/month, added to your regular monthly utility bill. Customers who are already signed up may begin putting out their yard waste carts on Wednesday, April 1.

To sign up, please contact the City of Cheney Finance Department at 498-9209. If you have any questions, please call Public Works, 498-9293.

April Recreation Programs

For information or to register ... (509) 498-9250 / cityofcheney.org/177/Parks-Recreation

The Wren Pierson Center is temporarily **CLOSED**. All Parks & Recreation Center programs and activities have been postponed until further notice. We will post information on the City's website as it becomes available.