

# CHENEY CONNECTIONS



April 2021

[www.cityofcheney.org](http://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](http://www.cityofcheney.org/water)

The Cheney Water Department is currently 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 began flushing water lines on Monday, March 15 and will continue to work Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 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.

## Meeting Dates & Events

- April 7: Cheney Merchants' Association, 5:30 pm, Zoom
- April 12: Planning Commission, 6 pm, Zoom
- April 13: City Council, 6:00 pm, Zoom
- April 19-22: Large Item Pickup Service
- April 24: Cheney Clean Sweep
- April 27: City Council, 6:00 pm, Zoom

## Cheney Clean Sweep

**Saturday, April 24**

Pick up a litter bag, an assignment map, and a Clean Sweep tote bag from the Utility Building April 19-24. Return your litter bag to the Utility Building for disposal.

Large item pickup will be April 19-22. Your collection day will coincide with your normal garbage pickup day. Deadline to arrange for large item pickup will be **Friday, April 16 at 5:00 pm.**

## Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

If you have a backflow assembly device installed at your residence, you will be receiving the Annual Test Notice and a list of authorized certified testers in the mail this April. It is important that you perform the annual test to be sure that your backflow preventer is operating properly. Please try to have your device tested prior to starting your irrigation system for the season. If you have an irrigation service turn your system on each spring, they most likely are authorized to test your backflow device at that time. It is very important that you use one of the authorized Backflow Assembly Testers on the list provided to you along with the notice.

### Why is annual testing necessary?

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

Assuring that your backflow prevention device is functioning properly not only protects the water system from possible contamination, but helps protect you from possible fines and legal consequences resulting from a backflow incident occurring from your residence.

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](http://www.cityofcheney.org/207/water).



## Clean Green Pickup Resumes April 5

Our Solid Waste Division offers a curbside pickup of “clean green” yard waste April through October. The service provides one 96-gallon cart that will be emptied on the same day as your normal garbage pickup. There is a fee of \$12 per month that will be added to your utility bill.

Customers who are already signed up may begin putting out their yard waste carts on Monday, April 5.

Our solid waste crew would like to remind you **not** to put garbage or pet waste in clean green carts.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (509) 498-9293.

