



CITY OF ONEIDA

Water Department

2026 HYDRANT & WATER LINE FLUSHING



City of Oneida hydrant being flushed.
Circa 1930s.

The City of Oneida Water Department historically conducts district-wide hydrant flushing this time of year. Flushing of the water system will begin Monday, September 28, 2026. Flushing is a routine maintenance activity. During flushing, increased water flow through the distribution system can temporarily disturb sediment in water mains, which may result in discolored water.

HYDRANT FLUSHING - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why does the City flush the water system?

Flushing is a routine water-system maintenance activity. Opening hydrants and allowing water to flow at higher rates helps move sediment and mineral deposits out of the distribution system and supports ongoing maintenance of the water mains and system. Without routine flushing, water can develop taste, odor, discoloration, or stagnation issues in low-use areas.

What should I do when I see Water Department crews flushing hydrants in my area?

Drive carefully and watch for workers; roads may be wet or ponded. Avoid using faucets or washing clothes during flushing, as it may pull discolored water into home plumbing.

How will this affect my water?

You may experience brief low pressure or discolored water. While not a health risk, avoid drinking or cooking with discolored water. Do not prepare baby food/formula with discolored water; use bottled or boil water for 5 minutes. It is okay to shower, bathe, and flush toilets. However, do not wash clothes until water runs clear.

What should I do after the flushing?

If water appears discolored, it is highly recommended that you run several cold taps for a few minutes until clear. Avoid doing laundry until water is clear, start with dark clothing or an empty cycle if concerned.

Why should I avoid hot water during flushing?

Using hot water while sediment is moving through the water main can draw that material into your home's hot-water system. Waiting until the cold water is clear helps reduce that possibility.

Why does my water look discolored after flushing?

Temporary brown/rust discoloration or cloudy/milky appearance is common due to stirred-up sediment or air bubbles. Let the cold water run for a few minutes.

What is the sediment in the water system and how does it get there?

Naturally present minerals in water react with pipe walls, creating sediment that settles over time. Flushing removes much of this buildup.

What happens during hydrant flushing?

The City of Oneida Water Department uses a unidirectional flushing program whereby water is flushed from larger mains first, before moving to smaller water mains. High-velocity flow removes settled minerals.

Does hydrant flushing waste water?

Although it may appear wasteful, flushing is essential to maintain safe, clean, high-quality drinking water.

Where can I get more information?

Contact the City of Oneida Water Department at 315-363-1490 or email us at water@oneidacityny.gov.



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City of Oneida hydrant being flushed.
Circa 1930s.

2026 Flushing Schedule as shown below:

***Important:** The schedule is subject to change based on weather, system conditions, operational needs and other circumstances.

First Week

Monday – September 28, 2026

Transmission main from Glenmore Reservoir to Oneida. Discolored water may be experienced in scattered areas, including Sherrill, Stockbridge, Wampsville and Durhamville. Investigate the water condition before using for wash, etc.

Tuesday – September 29, 2026

Lake Street, Rocky Road, Sconondoa Street, Wilson Street, East Walnut Street from Sconondoa Street to Arterial, Prospect Street, Devereaux Street, Verona Street, Gladwell Ave., Harden Street, Bennett Road, Sherman Street, Williams Street, Almond Street, East Elm Street, East Railroad Street, North Main Street, Furnace Avenue, Northside Shopping Center

Wednesday – September 30, 2026

West Elm Street, Liberty Street, Saint Josephs Place, North Broad Street, North Street, Allen Street, Chappell Street, Boston Street, McGuire Street, Grand Street, Phillips Street, Randall Avenue, North Warner Street, West Railroad Street, Ridge Road, North Willow Street, Fitch Street, Ann Street, Garfield Avenue, Lenox Avenue from Willow Street to Geer Lane

Thursday – October 1, 2026

Madison Street, Phelps Street, Cedar Street, James Street, Messenger Street, Vanderbilt Avenue, Farrier Avenue, South Warner Street, Lenox Avenue from Willow Street to Main Street, Main Street from Madison Street to Stone Street, Mott Street, Linden Street, Stoddard Street from Linden Street to Arterial, Lexington Avenue from Wilson Street to Mott Street

Friday – October 2, 2026

Main Street from Stone Street to Genesee Street, East Walnut Street from Arterial to Main Street, East Avenue, Elizabeth Street, MacArthur Parkway, Pleasant Street, Stoddard Street from Arterial to Maple Street, Maple Street, Lexington Avenue from Mott Street to Elizabeth Street, Stevens Street, Bennett Street, Pearl Street, Wilbur Street, East Grove Street, Brooks Street, East Sands Street

Second Week

Monday – October 5, 2026

Broad Street, Washington Avenue, Stone Street from Main Street to Seneca Street, West Street, Loucks Street from Washington Avenue to Lenox Avenue, Seneca Street from Stone Street to Rte 5, Park Avenue, West Walnut Street, Bates Avenue, South Avenue, Drake Avenue, Belmont Avenue from Broad Street to Seneca Street, Tilden Street, Coe Avenue, Cottage Place, Broadway, Allen Park Place, Summit Avenue, Searles Avenue, Lynnburt Street, West Sands Street, West Grove Street, Jenkins Street, Shattuck Avenue, Maple Drive, High School

Tuesday – October 6, 2026

Stone Street from Seneca Street to Willow Street, Loucks Street, Leonard Street, Graley Avenue, Earl Avenue, Oxford Street, Cleveland Avenue from Seneca Street to Willow Street, Lincoln Park Blvd., Lincoln Avenue from Lincoln Park Blvd. to Willow Street, Elmhurst Avenue, Grant Avenue, Florence Avenue, Sylvan Street, Franklin Street, Belmont Avenue from Seneca Street to Sylvan Street

Wednesday – October 7, 2026

Stone Street from Willow Street to Lenox Avenue, Sayles Street, Cleveland Avenue from Willow Street to Sayles Street, Carpenter Street, Lincoln Avenue from Willow Street to Sayles Street, Birchwood Drive, Morgan Lane, Patio Circle, Sugar Lane, Valley View Drive, Hunt Valley Road, Cedar Crest Lane, Ryan's Way, Stoneleigh Road, Driftwood Drive, Woodland Terrace, Willow Meadow Way, Willow Tree Terrace

Thursday – October 8, 2026

Lenox Avenue from Geer Lane to Genesee Street, Genesee Street, Lowes, Wal-Mart, Hubbard Place, Upper Lenox Avenue, Oatman Drive, Palmer Drive, Deerfield Drive, Foxwood Terrace, Fultz Drive, Hagen Circle, LaRaia Medical Facility, Hospital, Seneca Street Extension, Dream Catcher Plaza, HP Hood

Friday – October 9, 2026

Glenwood Avenue, Glenwood Circle, West Road, Fairview Avenue, Brophy Road, Mt. Hope, Union Street, Middle Road, Nelson Avenue, Maplewood Avenue, Village of White Pines, Territory Road, Peterboro Road, Freedom Drive

Third Week

Monday – October 12, 2026

Columbus Day – No flushing

Tuesday – October 13, 2026

Village of Oneida Castle, Skenandoah – Highbridge Water District, The Trail, Prospect Street Water District, Marble Hill Water District

Wednesday – October 14, 2026

The entire Village of Wampsville

Thursday – October 15, 2026

The entire Village of Wampsville

Friday – October 16, 2026

The entire Village of Wampsville

Fourth Week

Monday – October 19, 2026

The entire Village of Wampsville

Tuesday – October 20, 2026

The entire Village of Wampsville

Wednesday – October 21, 2026

Town of Stockbridge and the Village of Munnsville

Thursday – October 22, 2026

Town of Stockbridge and the Village of Munnsville

Friday – October 23, 2026

Town of Stockbridge and the Village of Munnsville