

CITY OF McCLEARY

Water Customer Information



Home of the McCleary Bear Festival

Flushing Electric Hot Water Tanks

If there is dirty or smelly water coming from your hot water taps but the cold water taps are clear, you may need to flush out your hot water tank. These instructions will generally apply to hot water tanks properly installed within the last 10-15 years. If you have ANY problems following these instructions, you should contact a plumber to help you flush your hot water tank.

1. Turn **OFF** the power to the hot water tank. CAUTION: power must be **OFF** before draining the hot water tank. The tank can be substantially damaged if there is no water in it and the power is ON.
2. Connect a hose to the drain valve and direct it to a floor drain or outside the house.
3. Open the drain valve and flush the tank for about five minutes, Caution: At first, the water will be very hot.
4. Shut off the cold water inlet.
5. Open several hot water taps in the house to let air into the line in order to completely drain the tank.
6. Turn the cold water inlet back on.
7. Carefully close the drain valve as much as possible without forcing this valve shut. Due to age and possible rust in the valve it may be difficult to shut it drip tight, keep the hot water supply valve open to fill the tank and purge air through the open hot water taps. Hot valve never closed.
8. Open the drain valve again and flush until the water is running clear.
9. Carefully shut the drain valve and the hot water taps in the house.
10. Turn the power back on.

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100 S. 3rd Street
McCleary, WA 98557

Phone: 360-495-3667

Fax: 360-495-3097

E-mail: colinm@cityofmccleary.com