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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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El Paso Fire Department Conducts Routine Hydrant Flushing

EL PASO, Texas—The El Paso Fire Department is conducting its annual hydrant flushing and routine testing in accordance with national standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 25 and NFPA 291).

These inspections, typically performed during the work week and regular business hours, are critical to ensuring hydrants remain in proper working condition and that the water supply system can meet the demands of firefighting operations during emergencies. With wildfires and structure fires being reported across the nation, ensuring our hydrants are fully operational is more important than ever to support rapid and effective emergency response.

As part of this process, hydrants across the city are flushed annually, and undergo flow testing every five years on a rotating schedule.

While these tests are essential for public safety, residents may occasionally notice temporary changes in water appearance or taste. This is caused by the disturbance of naturally occurring, non-hazardous sediment in the system. In most cases, running cold water for a few minutes will clear the sediment and restore normal water clarity.

Do not run hot water, as this may draw the sediment into your water heater. If hot water has already been used, it may be necessary to flush your hot water system, which can take longer.

It's important to note that hydrant flushing isn't the only cause of sediment disturbance. Other contributors include:

- Private hydrants tested and maintained by contractors
- Metered hydrants used by contractors for water access
- Routine maintenance and repairs by El Paso Water Utilities

Because of the scale and nature of the water system, daily notifications to individual residents are not feasible. All residents and businesses are encouraged to check their water for any discoloration before use.

The community's patience and understanding are appreciated as the Fire Department carries out these essential maintenance activities to safeguard public safety and maintain the integrity of our water distribution system.

For more information about the El Paso Fire Department, visit ElPasoFire.org or follow us on X, Instagram, or Facebook.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

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