

WATER QUALITY CHECKLIST

The Washington State Board of Health drinking water regulations requires that no portion of a public water system, which is to contain drinking water, can be used unless it has been properly disinfected. The success of the disinfection process depends primarily on the measures taken by construction crews to avoid contamination during the laying of the water main.

If these practices are followed, the chances of getting a good bacteriological sample are much improved and the existing drinking water supply will be protected. If you need further information concerning water quality issues, please call (206) 684-5941.

HANDLING & STORING PIPE:

- ✓ Unload pipe so as to prevent entrance of ground contaminants.
- ✓ Inspect interior of pipe for debris (If any debris is in pipe it must be swept out.)
- ✓ Use watertight plugs when main is not attended to – at the end of workdays, or when storing pipe along the route for future installation.
- ✓ Ditch must be kept pumped out at all times. At least one pump required on job site.
- ✓ Keep brush handy for sweeping out end of mains prior to connection.

DISINFECTING PIPE:

- ✓ Chlorinate & flush all new mains, including hydrant branches; refer to latest edition of Seattle Standard Specifications, section 7-11.3(12). (At SPU Inspector's discretion, the chlorine content at the end of the prescribed contact time – usually 24 hours - shall be measured to ensure a minimum 10-PPM free chlorine residual.)
- ✓ A Washington State Approved Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly shall be used between the new main and supply hose to prevent contamination of the supply.

FLUSHING – BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING AND TESTING:

- ✓ Complete the hydrostatic test prior to requesting bacteriological sampling.
- ✓ Ensure a physical separation between existing main and new main during hydrostatic test.
- ✓ Obtain a satisfactory bacteriological sample prior to connection. Sample results are good for a period of 14 days (from the time the sample was drawn). If the connection is not made within this timeframe the main will have to be refushed and resampled.
- ✓ If the new water main is over 500', representative bacteriological samples will be required every 500 feet.
- ✓ Use a clean, chlorinated hose for supplying flush water.
- ✓ Maintain an approved air gap, twice the diameter of the discharge pipe/hose between the outlet and the receiving vessel.
- ✓ Locate sampling faucet ahead of discharge hose and above excavation.
- ✓ 24-hour notice is required prior to collection of bacteriological samples.
- ✓ All hydrant branches and dead-ends over 18 feet will require a satisfactory bacteriological sample prior to connection.
- ✓ Allow 48 – 72 hours for completion of bacteriological tests, the Resident Engineer will contact you with the results. **DO NOT CALL THE WATER QUALITY LAB.**

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