

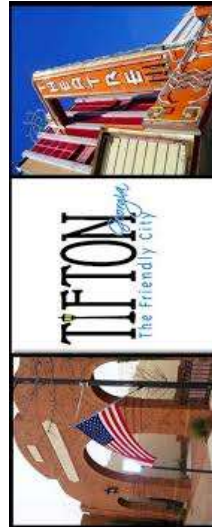
Providing a better today - planning for a better tomorrow.

Fun Facts About Water:

- The United States uses 356,000,000,000 gallons of fresh water every day.
- The average person uses 80-100 gallons of water per day.
- Approximately 85% of U.S. residents receive their water from public water systems.
- Much more fresh water is stored under the ground in aquifers than on the earth's surface.

City of Tifton – ESG Utilities

1000 Armour Rd, Tifton, GA 31794



Helpful Hints for Rusty Water

A quick reference guide to everything you need to know in the event you experience rusty water.





What can you do?

When presented with rusty water at your residence, please follow the steps below:

- Turn the water off as to not spread the rusty water throughout your home
- Contact the City of Tifton's Utility Office as soon as you notice a discoloration in your water. Provide your name, contact number and address to the utility. The daytime number is (229)391-3949 opt. 2 and the afterhours number is (229)382-3132.
- A utility technician will come to your area and flush at a fire hydrant to verify that the main lines are clear and then make contact with you once they are complete.
- Once contacted by utilities, flushing at the residence may be required. Please use an outside spigot and/or bath tub to clear the service line to the home. Use only the cold water side to prevent rusty water from entering the water heater. Please do not use any water source with a screen or filter as they may become clogged with rust particulates. This should take between 5 and 20 minutes.

What is Rusty Water?

Rust is oxidized iron. It can originate anywhere from a water main to your own plumbing. Tap water can turn reddish brown due to iron particles that break free from sediment inside corroded iron or steel pipes.

Causes of Rusty Water

There are many causes of rusty water. Below you can find a few reasons along with possible solutions.

- **Turbulent flow within the water system -**
The root cause of this can be multiple things such as a water main break, fire flows and heavy usage during irrigation season.
- **Reverse flows within the water system –**
This can occur when a well is taken out of service for maintenance, when valves are closed for maintenance or when a water main is added to loop the water system.
- **Temperature swing of 25-40 degrees -**
When the temperature during a day changes drastically, the expansion/contraction cycle of the piping can cause rust to break off of the walls of the water mains.



Additional Facts:

- Iron occurs naturally in drinking water sources. If the water is exposed to air coming out of the tap, it, too, may be rusty or turn rusty after standing.
- Though rusty water may look and taste unpleasant – and possibly stain sinks and clothing – it is not a health concern.
- On its own, rust in water is not a sign of harmful bacteria or lead, which are hazards. In fact, the limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for iron in drinking water are based on aesthetics (taste, odor, color), not safety concerns.
- You'll know the problem is in the pipes of your residence, not the municipal water supply, if rust appears:
 - A. When using hot water
 - B. From certain faucets or,
 - C. Clears after running for a short time
- Water Quality Reports for the City of Tifton are available upon request and can be found by following this link:
<http://www.tifton.net/COT%20March%202016%20English.pdf>

Contact Us

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