

# Flushing Hydrants



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Flushing hydrant is a hydrant that is used for flushing a water line of silt, rust, debris, or stagnant water. Many water utilities use standard fire hydrants for flushing their lines. Specialized flushing hydrants are often smaller and less expensive than a fire hydrant to reduce cost where fire fighting use is not needed or practical. Flushing hydrants typically only have one outlet in contrast to fire hydrants which normally have two or three. Flushing hydrants are commonly installed at the end of dead end water lines.

They come in many shapes and forms from several different manufacturers. You must be sure to ask for a model that will function in the environment you plan to install it in. For some applications you can save money by installing a manually operated unit, but for year-round flushing requirements, an automatic model would be your best choice.

All automatic models are programmable to attain your desired flushing needs and have either an atmospheric or direct-discharge outlet. The atmospheric

discharge units flush water onto a built-in splash pad where it is diffused. These models employ an air gap to prevent backflow. The directed-discharge style units route the flushed water into a sanitary sewer, storm drain, or retention pond, through a discharge line. Depending on the model selected, the directed-discharge models offer either an air gap, a Reduced Pressure Zone backflow preventer or a pressure vacuum breaker for backflow prevention. 💧