



A foul, bleachy or chemical taste and odor in the water is commonly caused by an accumulation of organic material in the plumbing. Chloramine is a disinfectant added into the water by LADWP to control bacterial growth. It can react with organic material to create disinfection by-products (DBPs). Many of these DBPs have a very strong chemical or bleachy taste and odor.

The accumulation of organic material can be eliminated by flushing your water pipes. This procedure is outlined in the following steps:

Step	Description
1	<p>Remove the screens (aerators) from the ends of the indoor faucets and run all of the faucets at full capacity and simultaneously for 5 minutes.</p> <p><i>Note: Removing the aerators before flushing will allow material dislodged by flushing to pass through the faucet and not accumulate on the screen.</i></p>
2	<p>Flush the toilets two or three times each while the faucets are running.</p> <p><i>Note: Running all the water faucets and toilets simultaneously generates a large flow of water through the pipes and will likely dislodge any build-up of organic material that is causing the taste and odor problem.</i></p>
3	<p>After 5 minutes of flushing, turn off the water faucets, clean the aerators, and reinstall them on the ends of the faucets.</p>