

<http://waterheatertimer.org/Troubleshoot-Rheem-Tankless-water-heater.html>

De-Liming the Rinnai Tankless Water Heater with Vinegar and Transfer Pump, February 18, 2006



Rinnai tankless water heater warning code for lime deposits appears after 5 months



Valve drain caps removed, vinyl tubes with garden hose fittings screwed onto drain ports, water inlet/outlet valves closed, drain valves opened. Tube from transfer pump connected to cold water side, discharge from hot water side.



Clean vinegar added to bucket. Transfer pump recirculates vinegar to bucket.



Vinyl tubing



Wayne 115V transfer pump, \$51 from Farm and Fleet.



Transfer pump box.



Vinegar. Rinnai says to use 4 gallons.

Bucket of vinegar

Transfer pump. Garden hose to pick up side, clear tubing discharges to cold water side of water heater.



Pump recirculates vinegar for 45 minutes, slight green color develops in vinegar from copper in system.

Vinegar color after recirculating

Vinegar after deliming. System is then flushed with cold water by opening cold water valve from plumbing and closing cold water drain valve, but hot water drain valve remains open, hot water valve closed. Flushed with about 20 gallons of fresh water. Transfer pump then cleaned of residual vinegar and stored for next use.



Abe says:

do the math

\$6 ≠ \$1,000

Average home saves \$1-8 per month with tankless = \$12 - \$96 per year

Delime each year, clean burner each year, clean water filter each month = aggravation

You got time for this aggravation? After spending that kind of money for a water heater.