Cleaning Rinnai Water Heater Input Water Filter

On the center pipe beneath the water heater is a barrel shaped screen filter. This may be removed and cleaned by running water into the open end of the filter. If you are experiencing water flow or performance issues, a clogged filter could be the cause.

Location of water filter housing on bottom of heater unit.

Procedure:
1. Shut off the cold water input to the water heater. A shut off valve should be installed below the filter housing. **NOTE: If you cannot locate the shutoff valve, either shut off main structure supply or do not proceed without a qualified service professional.**
2. Turn on a hot water tap to drain off existing water in unit.
3. Remove filter by unscrewing plug located directly below the cabinet on the center pipe (see above diagram). This plug is about the same size as a U.S. Quarter. (Be prepared for a small amount of back-flowing water to drain from the unit. If a large amount of pressure appears to be on this line while unscrewing, STOP immediately and return the plug to its original state—contact a qualified service professional to assist.)
4. Clean debris from filter by running under fresh water. **NOTE: Do not use cleaners or solvents which could contaminate your water supply. Food grade vinegar or citric acid can be used if needed.**
5. Replace filter and tighten finger tight.
6. Restore flow by turning on the water input valve. (Insure no water is dripping from filter housing.)

If frequent cleaning is required, consider an in-line filter or water softener on the incoming cold water supply.