



CITY OF WALKER

WATER SYSTEM NOTIFICATION

City of Walker Water Supply Customers:

The City of Walker municipal water system contains a naturally occurring element called manganese. The City of Walker utilizes an approved water treatment product in an attempt to sequester the naturally occurring manganese. Over time, this element may settle out in the distribution system and build up on the interior portion of the distribution system piping and apparatus, creating a potential legacy issue. Non-routine events in the distribution system causing hydraulic flow changes, such as high-water demand during fire protection incidents and water main breaks, can create a rapid movement of water, which causes a scouring effect, releasing some of the accumulated manganese within the distribution system, causing discolored water and sediment to be visible to customers potentially. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established a secondary water quality standard of manganese concentrations in drinking water, which causes esthetic issues related to taste and color.

In October 2023, the city conducted routine maintenance on Water Well #4, located on Florida Blvd. near Walker High School. This maintenance created a hydraulic flow change within the distribution system, causing the release of accumulated manganese in a portion of the water system. The maintenance on Well #4 took approximately two months to complete. Once the disinfection process on Well #4 was completed and lab results from the Louisiana Department of Health Laboratory returned clear, it was placed back in service. The hydraulic flow change created by putting Well #4 back in service has also caused the release of accumulated manganese in portions of the water system. Water system personnel have been flushing the distribution system in an attempt to resolve the disturbance of legacy manganese, which has caused discolored water and sediment in portions of the water system.

We will conduct unidirectional flushing to mitigate these legacy issues during overnight hours of 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. to minimize the impact to our customers. Over the next several days, customers may have an increased chance of noticing discolored water created by the intentional scouring effect of unidirectional flushing. If you are experiencing discolored water or sediment in your home/business, follow these steps:

1. Flush the water faucet on the exterior of your home/business for several minutes.
2. Turn on cold water faucets for 2-3 minutes or until the water runs clear.

If discolored water or sediment persists after following these steps, please call the City of Walker Utility Department at (225) 664-3123, so we can have a water department employee visit your home/business to address the issue as quickly as possible.

If you would like to discuss this issue further, please feel free to contact the Water Services Director at the number above. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time. Our goal is always to provide quality water to every tap.

Thank You,

Wendy Montalbano
Water Services Director