



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 a period of time this element may settle out in the distribution system as well as 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 distribution system causing discolored water and sediment to potentially be visible to customers. 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 which is 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 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 be conducting unidirectional flushing to mitigate these legacy manganese issues during the overnight hours (10:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.) to minimize the impact on our customers. Over the next several days, while our water department employees are conducting unidirectional flushing, 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 to always provide quality water to every tap.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "W Montalbano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "W" being particularly large and stylized.

Wendy Montalbano
Water Services Director