

Rennaker, Joanne (DEQ)

From: Prysby, Mike (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 4:45 PM
To: rfelton@metrotimes.com
Cc: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Subject: Flint Water Discoloration

Ryan,

I was forwarded your inquiry concerning the potential cause(s) of the water discoloration in the College Cultural and downtown areas of Flint. Upon further discussion with water treatment plant staff, the discoloration appears to have been caused by un-authorized drafting of water from fire hydrants in these areas for street sweeping activities. This issue was discussed with the city and the department of public works and this method of obtaining water for street sweeping will be discontinued. Any future activities that involve drafting of water are to be coordinated with the Water Service Center and the drafting will occur at specified locations. Also, the presence of cast-iron water mains in or near these areas can also cause discoloration, especially under high flow conditions (main breaks, flushing, and un-authorized hydrant use) as this stirs up accumulated sediment and rust (typically associated with old cast-iron mains). If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the number provided below.

Michael Prysby, P.E.
District Engineer
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
517 290-8817

Rennaker, Joanne (DEQ)

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 1:30 PM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ)
Subject: Flint water media calls

I've been instructed to take all media inquiries on this for the foreseeable future. Please alert other staff as necessary.

Thanks,

b

Brad Wurfel
Communications Director
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
517-284-6713
517-230-8006 cell