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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Customers may detect change in taste & odor of drinking water

The Fort Worth Water Department is experiencing changes in the taste and odor of the drinking water coming from the North Holly Water Treatment Plant. The change is attributed to algae dying and giving off a compound – geosmin – that negatively impacts the taste and odor of drinking water.

The Water Department assures customers the water is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing and all other purposes, even though it may have an earthy smell and taste.

In an attempt to try to mitigate the issue, the department increased the dosage of ozone at the North Holly Water Plant. Ozone is used to disinfect the drinking water, and it can help with resolving taste and odor issues, but not in all cases. Very minute amounts of geosmin can affect drinking water's taste and odor.

Customers may try to improve the taste of their drinking water by:

- refrigerating the water in an open container; or
- adding a slice of lemon or lime.