

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LYON

WATER QUALITY UPDATE - January 4, 2019

Please be advised that the township water system has been experiencing some residual difficulties as a result of unanticipated circumstances that have had a direct impact on the iron content in the water system. Although the township is not required by law to treat the water for iron content in regards to colorization or taste, we want our residents on the water system to have the best quality water possible. With that in mind, we are working diligently to get the new improvements to the Woodwind Water Treatment Plant on line by the end of the first quarter of this year.

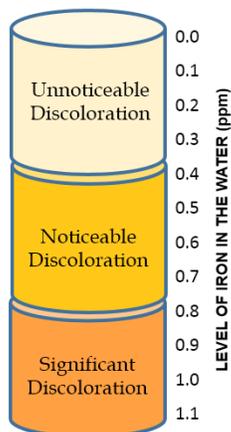
Background Information

There were two recent events that occurred which caused an increase in the iron count in the water system:

- A power outage at the Woodwind Water Treatment Plant caused the South Hill and Tanglewood well houses to turn on. These two well houses produce safe water, however, they do not have iron filtration systems and so the water provided is not iron free. Over 150,000 gallons of water with higher iron content was sent into the water system. During this time, residents would have seen a noticeable difference in the color of their water ranging from yellow to red-brown due to the iron.
- A second event occurred when a contractor working on the new SCADA system caused a signal loss with the Woodwind Well House making the system show the two water tower levels as being “empty”. In this situation, the system is designed to turn on the South Hill well that pumped 250,000 gallons of water with higher iron content into the system. During this time, residents would have seen a noticeable difference in the color of their water ranging from yellow to red-brown due to the iron.

Unfortunately, these two events occurred after the township had just completed a very successful flush of the entire water system. It is important to note that any iron discoloration in the water that may have occurred prior to these events would have been associated with increased water use for irrigation systems. Increase usage can also trigger the South Hill well house to turn on which then sends safe but higher iron content water into the system. It then takes time for this water to work its way through the system and residents may see a temporary increase in discoloration followed by a decline. There is also no connection between new sewers being installed and the level of iron found in the water system.

Iron levels are measured on a parts per million (ppm) scale. The lower the number, the clearer the water color. In this diagram you can see how the number of iron ppm is reflected in the level of water discoloration. The ideal levels are between 0.0 and 0.3. Until the new improvements to the water plant are completed, the township is working to keep the iron content down by testing the water daily to detect the level of iron and then doing due diligence to prevent the iron content from exceeding 0.3.



Current Status

The Woodwind Water Treatment Plant well house is working. We are filtering water with an iron count of 0.3 or less parts per million (ppm) and at this level you should not see iron discoloration in the water. At this time, we are confident that the system has recovered from the two incidents and we are seeing a better color quality in the water being distributed.

***** SPECIAL NOTICE *****

Please be aware that the week of **January 14, 2019** we are going to take the Woodwind Well House off-line to tie into the new filtration system. This action will take the filters off-line for 72- 96 hours and the township water supply will be coming from the South Hill and Tanglewood Well Houses which is safe but unfiltered for iron. The water **WILL BE DISCOLORED**. This is a temporary situation but a necessary step to take us closer to a new and improved water treatment plant.