



Heritage Ranch Community Services District

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PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE

August 23, 2018

We would like to inform the residents of Heritage Ranch that there is no health & safety risk due to the slight coloration of our water we are currently experiencing. There is no action required from residents.

The coloration issue was caused by sudden increased levels of manganese in the raw water (Nacimiento Reservoir). The Division of Drinking Water labels manganese as a secondary contaminant. Secondary contaminants are described as aesthetically displeasing with no health risks. Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral and tends to settle at the bottom of reservoirs. When reservoir levels decrease, manganese concentrations in the remaining water increase. This is what is currently happening in the Nacimiento Reservoir. Historically, the District has experienced high levels of manganese during periods of low reservoir levels.

When manganese concentrations in the raw water increase, the amount of treatment must also be increased. Staff monitors manganese on a routine basis; however, the sudden manganese increase in the raw water allowed some un-oxidized manganese to pass through the treatment process (filters) for a short period of time that was then oxidized in the water distribution system. Staff increased the amount of treatment and the water being produced by the water treatment plant shows no signs of color.

The slightly colored water some residents may still be seeing is due to the water that is in the distribution system prior to the treatment adjustment. Staff is flushing the system to speed up the process of removing the slightly colored water. Depending on the system demand (how much water we are using), we should see the color back to normal within the next few days.

The Division of Drinking Water requires the District to test raw water for manganese on an annual basis. The District goes further and tests semi-annually from both raw water and treated water. The samples are sent to an independent certified laboratory for analysis. All samples are electronically transmitted and reviewed by the Division of Drinking Water. Staff also collects monthly samples for manganese and analyzes the results in house to adjust the manganese removal process. Staff is currently monitoring this daily.

Please continue to report any water quality issues to the District office at 1-805-227-6230, or in person.

Thank you