



For Immediate Release

WATERLINE CLEARING PROJECT COMING TO TAYLOR AREA

June 28, 2016 -- Beginning July 5th, the Brazos River Authority will conduct a 21-day chlorine "burnout" on the water distributions systems of the City of Taylor and Jonah Water Special Utility District. This activity will also affect water users that purchase potable water from Taylor and Jonah including the cities of Thrall and Hutto.

The BRA's East Williams County Regional Water Supply System, which provides water to both the City of Taylor and Jonah Water Special Utility District, uses chloramines or a combination of chlorine and ammonia, for disinfection of drinking water. During the 21-day free chlorine burn, the disinfection process will be changed from chloramines to free chlorine, a stronger and faster-acting disinfectant that helps control bacterial growth within the water distribution system. A system-wide flush of water mains through fire hydrants will also take place as part of the disinfectant process. Once the process is complete, this "free chlorine" will be removed from the water system. Without periodic free chlorine burns, water quality problems may develop.

During the free chlorine burn period, residents may notice a slight chlorine taste and smell to the water that is a normal part of the process and poses no health risk. Customers who use tap water for kidney dialysis at home should consult their doctor to advise them if any changes are necessary in their residual disinfectant neutralization procedures. Those utilizing tap water for aquariums should monitor both free and combined chlorine residuals.

Free chlorine burnouts are conducted every two to four years, depending on water quality and distribution system flushing schedules. The last time a burnout was completed in Taylor and Jonah was in 2012.

For additional information on the free chlorine burn, residents should contact their local water provider.

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About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the BRA contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton and the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System for the City of Round Rock. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto. The BRA owns and operates the East Williamson County Regional Water System for the City of Taylor.

The BRA engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the BRA samples and tests water from more than 100 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.