

**WORK SESSION STAFF REPORT**  
**Work Session Item No. 2**

**Date:** July 6, 2020  
**To:** City Council  
**From:** Rick DeGardner, Public Services Director  
**Re:** Watering Restrictions Update

**Background**

The Public Services Department continues its effort to keep the level of manganese in the water supply low by only running wells that produce water with the lowest manganese levels. Warmer outdoor temperatures are increasing demand for water, primarily to water lawns. Consequently, other wells producing water with higher levels of manganese have been needed to meet the higher water demands between 6:00am-10:00am.

During the June City Council work session, staff presented three options for consideration in our efforts to reduce water demand over the next several months. The City Council concurred with staff to expand the daily watering ban to 6:00am - 6:00pm. The rationale for this is because the highest volume demand for water occurs in the early morning hours. This results in the need to turn on additional (higher manganese levels producing) wells. Reducing the daily peak water demand should minimize the frequency/duration of operating higher manganese producing wells.

The MDH recommended health guidelines for manganese are as follows:

- 1) If you have an infant who drinks tap water or drinks formula made with tap water, a safe level of manganese in your water is 100 parts per billion (ppb) or less.
- 2) If you have an infant who never drinks tap water or formula made with tap water, a safe level of manganese in your water is 300 ppb or less.
- 3) If everyone is more than one year old, a safe level of manganese in your water is 300 ppb or less.

Regular monitoring during June shows a slight increase in the average ppb.

<b>MONTH</b>	<b># READINGS</b>	<b>AVERAGE -PPB</b>	<b>HIGH- PPB</b>	<b>LOW-PPB</b>
June, 2020	22	<b>148</b>	250	65
May, 2020	20	<b>128</b>	196	78
April, 2020	22	<b>101</b>	154	56
March, 2020	22	<b>96</b>	160	67

February, 2020	19	<b>102</b>	144	52
January, 2020	20	<b>110</b>	148	67
December, 2019	17	<b>151</b>	331	117

Staff is not recommending any additional watering restrictions at this time. City staff will continue awareness efforts to educate all municipal water supply consumers the importance of limiting water use to help keep manganese levels down. For example, we have sent out informational emails to HOA's requesting they forward the information to all members. Door tags have been placed when staff observes residences/businesses not complying with the current water restrictions.

**Requested Council Direction**

For informational purposes only