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For Immediate Release

**SOUTHEAST MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
PWS NJ #1424001**

**FIRE HYDRANT PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
April through November 2017**

(Cedar Knolls, NJ) — The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA or Authority) will implement the 2017 preventative maintenance, or asset management, program for fire hydrants owned by the Authority. The maintenance activities will be scheduled between April and November 2017, where each of the 1,650 Authority owned hydrants will be serviced. The maintenance program is based on industry best practices as defined in the American Water Works Association, 2016 edition, Manual M17 *“Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants”*.

SMCMUA’s updated flushing schedules and instructions for consumers are available at <http://smcmua.org/alerts.htm>.

Consumers may notice a decrease in water pressure or experience discolored water as a result of the flushing activities. Recommendations for consumers during and after flushing activities are provided below.

- If discolored water is observed, flush the internal cold water plumbing lines until all faucets run clear, start at the lowest level of your home or business and work your way to the highest level floor. Flush sinks, tubs, showers, all appliances that utilize water and outdoor hose bibs.
 - Flush the water lines that feed the washing machine and dishwasher before use by running each through one cycle.

- If discolored water is utilized to wash laundry, it may become stained, in this case the laundry may have to be rewashed (do not dry stained laundry) using an iron stain remover product.
- Empty and clean automatic ice makers.
- Drain and refill hot water heaters with temperatures set below 113 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Follow manufacturer recommendations for any necessary flushing of water softeners/cartridge filters. If the water pressure or flow is lower than normal at a specific faucet, remove and clean the aerator screen.
- Water reservoirs in tall buildings should be drained and refilled (as applicable).

SMCMUA appreciates our consumers' patience as we complete the hydrant maintenance program.

SMCMUA requests that all customers in the service area register with the **Morris County Citizen Alert Notification System** to better ensure the timely delivery of emergency notices associated with water supply, quality or other important messages. If you do not have access to a computer please ask a relative, friend or neighbor to register for you; otherwise, you can register at http://smcmua.org/customer_service.htm.

SMCMUA was established in December of 1976. SMCMUA provides drinking water to approximately 66,000 consumers in Morris County. The SMCMUA creating municipalities are the Town of Morristown, the Township of Morris, the Township of Hanover and the Borough of Morris Plains. For more information, visit www.smcmua.org or call Customer Service at 973-326-6880 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) or at 973-867-1758 for emergencies during non-business hours.