

For information, contact:
Laura Cummings, P.E.,
Executive Director/Chief Engineer
973-326-6866
lcummings@smcmua.org
or
Paul Kozakiewicz,
Superintendent
973-326-6865
pkozakiewicz@smcmua.org

For Immediate Release

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

**FIRE HYDRANT PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
March through November 2018**

(Cedar Knolls, NJ) — The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA or Authority) will implement its 2018 preventative maintenance, or asset management, program for fire hydrants owned by the Authority. These maintenance activities include hydrant inspection, repair and replacement, as well as flushing of the water mains.

The maintenance activities are scheduled between March 15th and November 30th, 2018. During this time period, 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”*.

The first phase of hydrant maintenance will be conducted in the Township of Hanover. The maintenance schedule will be available on the Authority’s website at www.smcmua.org/alerts. Local signage will also be posted to alert consumers of maintenance activities in their neighborhoods.

The hydrant maintenance activities include flushing of the mains which may result in a noticeable decrease in water pressure or in the observation of discolored water. Recommendations for consumers during and after flushing activities are provided below.

- It is recommended that consumers wait until the water has cleared before using it for potable water purposes.
- If discolored water is observed, you will need to flush all of your water lines within the premises of your home or business.
- Drain and refill hot water heaters.

- Flush the internal cold and hot 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.
 - Empty and clean automatic ice makers.
- Follow manufacturer recommendations for any necessary flushing or replacement 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).
- If discolored water is utilized to wash laundry, it may become stained. In this case, the laundry may have to be rewashed using an iron stain remover product. Do not dry stained laundry. Contact Customer Service to request delivery of this product.

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

CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE: Consumers can report non-emergency questions or concerns to our Customer Service Division at 973-326-6880 or customerservice@smcmua.org. Emergency conditions should be reported directly to 973-326-6880 during normal business hours and 973-867-1758 for after hour emergencies.

ACCOUNT INFORMATION: SMCMUA requests that account holders maintain current contact information to aid in communications for billing, service and for emergency purposes. Contact Customer Service to confirm your account information is accurate.

REGISTER FOR CITIZEN ALERTS: SMCMUA requests that all consumers who live and/or work 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 through the Authority's website at www.smcmua.org and select the REGISTER FOR CITIZEN ALERTS icon.

SMCMUA was established in December of 1976. SMCMUA provides drinking water to approximately 66,000 consumers in Morris County. SMCMUA's creating municipalities include the Town of Morristown, the Township of Morris, the Township of Hanover and the Borough of Morris Plains.