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The taste and odor issues with Burleson water have continued, according to the City of Fort Worth's water department (the City of Burleson gets its water from Fort Worth). The water is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing and all other purposes, although it has an earthy smell and taste.

The smell and taste of the water became an issue the week of Jan. 6. This week's test results indicate that the geosmin count in Lake Benbrook has almost doubled from two weeks ago. Tarrant Regional Water District indicates this is the highest levels seen in several years.

Geosmin is produced by bacteria in soil and algae found in surface water. Cold temperatures kill off the algae in surface water, and the dead algae release the geosmin.

According to a news release posted by Fort Worth today, Jan. 23, City employees have increased the dosing of ozone and begun blending the water from Lake Benbrook with water from Cedar Creek Lake. Ozone is used to disinfect the drinking water, and it can help with resolving taste and odor issues, but not in all cases.

For more information go to the City of Fort Worth website at <http://fortworthtexas.gov/water/> and click on the PDF link to the news release.