

February 3, 2014

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

The taste and odor issues with Fort Worth's water supply continue, according to the City of Fort Worth's water department.

The department has increased the dosing of ozone and has 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.

The City of Burleson buys its water from the City of Fort Worth. Other entities that may be experiencing the same issue include Bethesda Water Supply Corporation and the City of Crowley, to name a few.

In a Jan. 14 news release posted by Burleson, it stated that the first notification from Fort Worth said the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) had performed required and scheduled maintenance on the pipeline from Richland-Chambers Reservoir the first full week of January 2014. The Rolling Hills Water Treatment Plant and Westside Water Treatment plants were switched to Lake Benbrook as the sole provider. Test results then showed an increase in the geosmin levels in Lake Benbrook.

At the time of the Jan. 14 release, Fort Worth said that it could take several weeks for the smell and the taste of the water to return to normal. The most recent update stated that the pipeline from the Richland-Chambers Reservoir is scheduled to be out of service through most of February.

In a Jan. 23 news release posted by Burleson, Fort Worth said that that week's results indicated that the geosmin count in Lake Benbrook had almost doubled from the first full week in January. The TRWD said the geosmin levels were the highest seen in years.

Geosmin is not toxic or harmful. It is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing, although it has an earthy smell and taste to it. Customers may improve the taste of their drinking water by refrigerating the water in an open container; or adding a slice of lemon or lime.