



Press Release

PR18 – 055

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DATE: June 21, 2018

ALGAE BLOOM AFFECTING WATER ODOR AND TASTE WATER SUPPLY IS SAFE FOR USE

Chino Hills, CA – Chino Hills residents may notice an “earthy” or “musty” taste or odor in their drinking water. According to City officials, this is due to an algae bloom in Silverwood Lake, a State of California, Department of Water Resources (DWR) reservoir.

“Algae growth occurs every summer when temperatures rise,” said Nadeem Majaj, Public Works Director. “A by-product of the algae is an organic compound called geosmin, which causes the taste and odor that residents may notice.”

Officials report that the DWR will be treating Silverwood Lake with copper sulfate (a safe algaecide) on Friday, June 22. According to the Metropolitan Water District and City of Chino Hills water officials, the water supply is safe.

“Geosmin does not pose a health risk for people, pets, or landscaping, and customers do not need to take any precautions with their water,” said Mark Wiley, Water and Sewer Manager.

About 15-20% of the City’s water supply comes from Lake Silverwood. The water undergoes an extensive treatment process before it is delivered to water customers in Chino Hills.

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