

White City Water Improvement District

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General Manager's Report

Since 2004, September is recognized as **National Preparedness Month**. Sponsored by the Federal Emergency Response Agency ("FEMA"), this is a time for government entities, corporations and individuals to take stock of their situations and determine how prepared they are to respond to an emergency, whether **natural** – such as earthquake, flood, or **man-made** – such as a terrorist attack. White City Water Improvement District ("WCWID") is aware of the risks we face as a water system that utilizes deep well water. Our engineers periodically review our critical infrastructure for structural strength and flexibility in the event of an earthquake and we have built within the system "redundancy" so if some wells fail, other wells, other wells will hopefully still be functional. Also, emergency interconnections have been put into place so neighboring water systems can provide emergency water supplies to WCWID if needed. (WCWID, through the connections can also assist its neighbors.) In addition to the foregoing, WCWID has within the past year completely updated its Emergency Response Plans to assist staff and Board members in case of emergency and has scheduled training exercises to ensure the plans are more than simply notebooks on a shelf. In that regard, **WCWID's office will be closed on September 12 from 8:00 AM to Noon, and on September 13 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM, so staff can attend emergency response training** coordinated by ABS Consulting, the firm retained by WCWID to update the ERPs.

Regardless of WCWID's emergency preparedness, in the case of an earthquake or other disaster there may be significant negative effects on the water system and our ability to provide water to the community at the levels and pressure you have all come to expect. Indeed, if there is a major interruption of power, WCWID will not be able to pump its larger wells, and will have to instead rely upon a mobile generator, purchased a few years back, to run a smaller well to provide drinking water. In such a case, you may find that the only water available to you for the first 3 to 5 days following an emergency is what you have stored yourself and what WCWID can provide through use of the generator and mobile water storage tank that can be taken to a central distribution point.

Because of the foregoing, WCWID encourages all of its customers to have a minimum of three (3) days drinking water available to them in their homes. Indeed, water storage of fourteen (14) days would be better.

The following guidelines from the Salt Lake Valley Health Department Family Emergency Preparation Guide is helpful in determining what you should have in place for an emergency:

YOUR FAMILY DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT - 72-HOUR KIT

Water

Store water in plastic containers such as soft drink bottles. Avoid using containers that will decompose or break, such as milk cartons or glass bottles. A normally active person needs to drink at least two quarts of water each day. Hot environments and intense physical activity can double that amount. Children, nursing mothers, and ill people will need more.

Store one gallon of water per person per day.

Keep at least a three-day supply of water per person (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for each person in your household for food preparation and sanitation). [WCWID recommends 14 days.]

Don't forget water for your pets.

General Manager

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Treat all water if unsure of its purity before using it for drinking, food preparation or hygiene. Before treating, let any suspected particles settle to the bottom or strain through layers of paper towels or cloth. Water can be safely treated by:

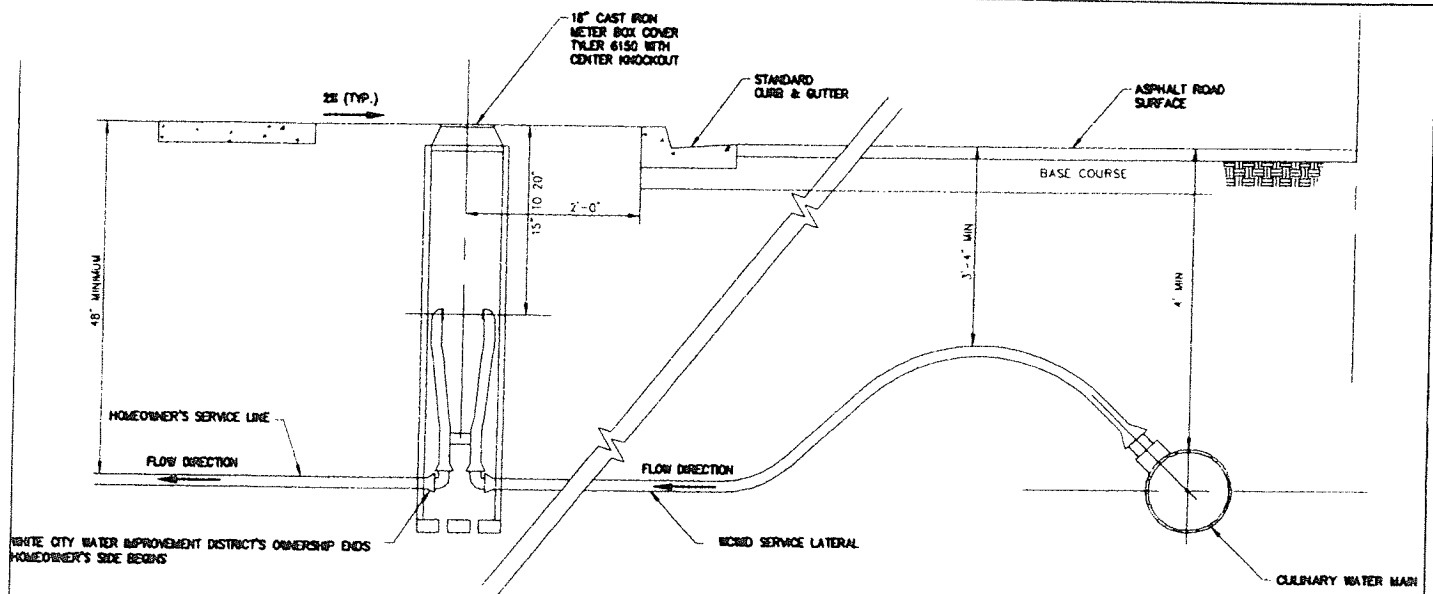
Boiling for 10-12 minutes: or

Adding 6-10 drops of bleach per gallon of water (don't use color-safe bleach). More bleach is not better, too much can make you ill.

Rotate your water storage every six months.

For further information on water storage and emergency response, you may go online and call up information from the American Red Cross, FEMA, or any of the local emergency response stores and businesses that are in the community such as Emergency Essentials, The Ready Store and others.

Another issue to keep in mind is that in case of physical damage to the water system, WCWID's responsibility is only to get water to the water meter that measures the amount of water supplied. Any pipes beyond the meter are the responsibility of the property owner. This is illustrated on in the diagram below:



S.B. 45 Retail Water Line Disclosure is to define the responsibility for the water service line. White City Water Improvement has prepared a diagram to illustrate the location of the water service as it pertains to the property owner. This illustration is labeled with the location of White City's responsibility and where the homeowner responsibility begins. In aging water lines, the following are major causes of line failures. (1) Aging service lines, over time, normal wear and tear can weaken and eventually break the water line. (2) Corrosion, mineral builds up can cause the water line to deteriorate until it fails. (3) Tree Roots, tree roots push against the pipe, deforming the line and causing damage. (4) Ground shifting, changing soil conditions can cause the ground to shift, which could crack the pipe. (5) Sediment, sediment can build up and cause the pipe to clog completely.

Remember, while WCWID will do its best to provide life giving drinking water to its residents in the event of an emergency, the primary responsibility to initially do so is your own. WCWID is fortunate to have access to pristine drinking water from deep underground wells, but to pump that water to the surface requires electricity and piping hundreds of feet underground. While we are trying to anticipate events that might interfere with the water system's operations, life has a tendency to throw curve balls and there is no guarantee that you will always be able to simply go to your tap and turn it on to obtain life-sustaining water. BE PREPARED.