

Water is Safe to Drink despite Musty Taste and Odor

St. George City Water department has received several phone calls over the last couple of weeks from concerned citizens about a musty taste and odor in their water.

Over sixty percent of St. George City's water comes from the Quail Creek Drinking Water Plant where surface water from Quail Creek is treated to drinking water standards. The treatment process includes the addition of Powder Activated Carbon to remove organic taste and odors that come from Algae that grows in the reservoir in warm weather. Recently the company that delivers the Powder Activated Carbon out of California had problems getting their shipment here on time causing the treatment plant to feed low dosages of P.A.C. for over a week. This event combined with the warm lake temperatures in summer, and resulting high algae concentrations has left the water smelling and tasting "musty or moldy".

As of the 7th of August, the Washington County Water Conservancy District along with St. George City and the City of Santa Clara have turned on every underground water well available hoping to lower the water temperature and improve the taste of the water in the distribution system. The Fire and Water Department are flushing areas that may have greater taste and odor problems.

Despite the Musty Smell, water quality is monitored hourly, daily and weekly for health related characteristics. The water is completely safe to drink and meets all State and Federal regulations for safe drinking water.

If you would like to improve the taste of your water immediately you can purchase a simple, cheap carbon filter that will remove the organic smell. Most of the local businesses have above or below sink models that can be purchased for less than twenty dollars.

We appreciate your confidence and cooperation through this situation. If you have further questions you may call 634-5839 x100 or email us at water@sgcity.org. We also invite you to visit our web site for frequently asked questions about your water at www.sgcity.org/wp/water.