

## News Release

For Immediate Release

9/13/17

# Annual Drinking Water Treatment Change and Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

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(Monroe, NC) – In order to meet stricter Federal and State drinking water regulations, the City of Monroe operates its water treatment plant located on Lake Twitty using the practice of “chloramination,” to disinfect the drinking water. The chloramination process, which uses a combination of chlorine and ammonia, has been used for years by many water utilities across the country. Other water systems in North Carolina currently using the chloramine water treatment process include Raleigh, Cary, Fayetteville and Union County. As part of the operating permit issued by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, municipal systems using chloramines for water disinfection must revert to using only chlorine once per year to ensure good overall water quality in their distribution piping systems.

The City of Monroe is planning this conversion to begin October 2nd and will last approximately four (4) weeks. Fire hydrant flushing will occur on weekends during this period. The City will issue a follow-up news release when the conversion back to chloramines is scheduled. While most customers will not notice the change, some may notice a slight change in the taste of their water.

There are special groups of customers, including kidney dialysis patients, fish aquarium owners, and certain industries, which will need to be aware of the change and possibly, make adjustments in the way they remove chlorine from their water. The City's Water Resources Department is notifying local dialysis facilities and fish stores of the upcoming change to ensure they are prepared.

Any customers or citizens needing additional information about this program can call the City of Monroe Water Resources Department at 704-282-4601 or read more information on the City website at [www.monroenc.org](http://www.monroenc.org).