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NOTICE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Algae bloom in Chases Pond has passed

March 24, 2010

As you know starting in early February the York Water District experienced a rare and unusual, cold water, under ice, algae bloom in our only source of supply, Chase's Pond. The algae were not a health threat to people or animals but did impart an unpleasant taste and/or odor in the treated water. The York Water District staff worked closely with its Engineers and the Maine Drinking Water Program to implement several new treatment techniques that would remove the taste and odor.

During the algae bloom the York Water District stopped supplying the Town with water from Chase's Pond and opened the emergency interconnection with Kennebunk Kennebunkport and Wells Water District (KK&W). The District also flushed water mains and increased distribution system water quality samples to insure the water supplied to customers continued to meet or exceed State and Federal Standards.

The District is pleased to report that the algae bloom has passed and as of March 8th, the York Water District has supplied water to the town from Chase's Pond and closed the emergency interconnection with KK&W. The water supplied to the Town of York from KK&W during the bloom is compatible and mixed well in the system. It caused no water quality issues; however, one difference in the water supplied by KK&W and water supplied by York Water District is the addition of fluoride by KK&W. Given the fact that fluoridated water from KK&W was supplied to our customers for a several weeks we feel it's necessary to mention a few facts about KK&W and fluoride in water they supply.

- The level of fluoride provided by KK&W is the level determined by the US CDC and the Maine CDC to be safe and effective in helping to prevent tooth decay.
- KK&W manages its fluoride operation very well and assures that the level of fluoride in the drinking water is within recommended limits.
- For parents who have been providing prescription fluoride tablets, vitamins or drops to their children, using fluoridated water for drinking and cooking for these few weeks does not constitute any risk to their children (or themselves). If parents have a concern, they should contact the health provider who prescribed the fluoride for further advice.

The District is working to finalize an Algae Management Plan which includes prevention, monitoring, and treatment in the event this becomes a reoccurring issue.

If you have any questions or concerns please call the York Water District at 363-2265 or the Maine Drinking Water Program at (207) 287-2070.

Respectfully Submitted

The Staff at the York Water District

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