

Brought to you by the City of Ann Arbor Volume 3, Issue 26 | October 2021





To follow up on a topic I introduced last month, at a City Council work session on Sept. 13, I presented alternatives for Ann Arbor's water future. In last month's issue of Quality Water Matters, I shared with you the scope of the work session as well

as a link to the <u>presentation</u>. Please check it out if you are interested in reviewing what was presented to council.

During the coming months, city council members will be providing staff direction on which alternative(s) to pursue. I encourage you to reach out to your council representatives to ensure your voice is heard as they consider Ann Arbor's water future.



I want to share two videos about the city's water system. The <u>first video</u> I have shared before, and addresses the infrastructure needs for the water system. The <u>second video</u> is new, and highlights water quality issues and how the city addresses these challenges. In this new video, you will hear from our Drinking Water Quality Manager, Becky Lahr, PhD, as she discusses what we do to ensure you, our customers, receive the highest quality water.

If you have questions about your drinking water or want to meet some of our staff responsible

Continued on page 2

MONTHLY WATER QUALITY DASHBOARD 14.600 TESTS IN SEPTEMBER PFOS/PFOA 1.4-DIOXANE **24 PPT 7.2 PPB** IS MI MAXIMUM IS EGLE DRINKING **CONTAMINANT LIMIT** WATER CRITERION **10 PPT OR LESS** IS THE CITY'S GOAL .35 PPB EPA LIFETIME *RESULTS -**DETECTION LIMIT** RESULTS -RISK LEVEL NOT DETECTED **DETECTION LIMIT** PARTS PER TRILLION (PPT) PARTS PER BILLION (PPB) *PFAS RESULTS NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER

Calendar of events

Green Fair, Oct. 1, 6 -9 p.m., Downtown Main St.



During <u>Green Fair</u> downtown Main Street will be open to pedestrians to explore a multitude of exhibits showcasing local green businesses and non-profits, along with A²ZERO collaborators. Stop by to learn what you can do to help us achieve our carbon neutrality goals and forge a cleaner, greener future for you and our planet!

Check out some energy saving appliances; learn from interactive solar displays; ask questions of solar installers; learn about green commuting options like electric vehicles, e-bikes and The Ride.



for delivering water to your home or business, please come visit us during the Green Fair on Oct. 1 from 6–9 p.m. We will be hosting a booth along Main Street, will have a blind taste test of the city's water against some competitors, and our water drop mascot Huron is a favorite among kids big and small.

We look forward to seeing you. Be well.

Brian Steglite

Brian Steglitz, P.E., Drinking Water License F-1, Water Treatment Plant Manager continued from page 1

A Day Without Water Oct. 21

Imagine a Day Without Water is a national day of action on Oct. 21 and raises awareness about the value of water.

Have you ever thought about where your drinking water comes from? What about where your wastewater goes? For its seventh annual day, we urge you to take a few steps beyond imagining the

reality of going without a resource as vital as water.

One quick and easy way to take action is to complete a brief three-minute survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6KJFSV7 to help the city better

Imagine a Day Without Water

October 21, 2021

understand customers preferred water communication channels.

Thank you for your time!

Hydrant flushing and maintenance program update

The city conducts routine seasonal fire hydrant inspection and system maintenance each fall. This year, the maintenance program also coincided with the completion of the hydrant flushing program which began this spring. To view the current flushing areas, as well as those scheduled to flush next, see the hydrant-flushing map. Please note that if you are viewing this map on mobile, the colors correspond as follows:

- Green for areas flushing has been completed.
- Red for areas currently flushing.
- Blue for areas due to flush when the red area is complete.

Why is it helpful to know when hydrant flushing is happening in your neighborhood? On occasion during the hydrant-flushing process, the water in area homes may have



an orange or rusty appearance. The discolored water does not pose a health or safety risk, but the water can cause stains to laundry. If water appears discolored, please run the cold water for several minutes to clear your lines. Do not run the hot water, as rusty water may get into the hot water tank, requiring the tank to then be drained, per the manufacturer's instructions. You should also flush your toilets once or twice. The water should run clear within a few minutes. The iron sediment in the water main being disturbed by the hydrant flushing causes

the discoloration. Temporary laundry coloration caused by this sediment can be removed by using a product called "Rover."

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the hydrant-flushing process, go online or contact the City of Ann Arbor Customer Service Center at 734.794.6320.

Did You Know?

In the fall of 2018, the Ann Arbor Fire Department halted the use of foam containing PFAS for training purposes and purchased an alternative option for fighting flammable liquid fires such as gasoline, oil and other hydrocarbons. The old foam was disposed of properly via a regulated waste disposal company. Visit the city's PFAs information webpage for more answers to frequently asked questions.

