

July 7, 2010

CONTACT: Kate Powell
(203) 401-2738**MEDIA ADVISORY****DISCOLORED WATER**

The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority has been receiving questions from consumers about discolored water coming from their taps. The very warm weather last weekend and continuing this week has driven up demand for water. The higher flows of water through the water mains have stirred up sediments similar to fire hydrant flushings. With the hot weather likely continuing, causing high water demand, consumers may continue to experience discolored water. Running water in an attempt to flush your home system will not clear the discoloration of the water.

Consumers can help us by limiting your outside irrigation to the early morning hours. Additionally, due to widespread illegal hydrant openings contributing to the high flows of water, please call your local fire department if you see an open hydrant.

While unappealing, the water is not harmful. It is a personal choice whether or not to use the discolored water for showering, flushing toilets, cleaning floors, etc. To drink lightly discolored water, fill a container, put it in your refrigerator to cool and let the color settle to the bottom. When ready to drink, use the clear water from the top of the container. You should use caution if you wash clothes, especially light colored ones, in your washing machine. Check the condition to your water to prevent staining.

If consumers have other questions, they may call 203-562-4020.