



Municipal Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Jonathan Echols, PR Coordinator
Waco Water Utility Services
(254) 750-8416 jonathane@ci.waco.tx.us

Notice of Wastewater Discharge

Waco, Texas (June 20, 2019) – Due to the loss of power at a pump station and the subsequent failure of a back-up generator, an unauthorized discharge of wastewater has occurred from the Waco Metropolitan Area Regional Sewerage System (WMARSS) collection system.

The discharge, totaling approximately 200,000 gallons of domestic wastewater, occurred near 1911 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., entered a storm drain and emptied into the Brazos River nearby. The discharge was stopped after one hour, at approximately 7:30 a.m.

Facility Name: Waco Metropolitan Area Regional Sewerage System (WMARSS)

Person to contact for information: Lisa Tyer, (254) 750-8040

Location of spill(s): 1911 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Estimated date and time of spill(s): June 20, 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Estimated volume of spill(s)(number of gallons): 200,000

Type of Spill (domestic, industrial, other): domestic wastewater

Area potentially affected: Brazos River near 1911 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Suspected cause of spill(s): loss of power at pump station and subsequent failure of back-up generator

List of actions taken include, but are not limited to:

- Notification of appropriate local government officials
- Notification of TCEQ Regional Office

THIS IS NOT A BOIL WATER NOTICE. The information below includes mandatory health safety statements required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The city's wastewater collection system is completely separate from the drinking water system and **the City of Waco has no reason to believe drinking water, distributed by the City of Waco, has been compromised or affected in any way.**

Persons May Wish to Take the Following Personal Precautions:

- Persons using private drinking water supply wells located within ½ mile of the spill site or within the potentially affected area should use only water that has been distilled or boiled at a rolling boil for at least one minute for all personal uses including drinking, cooking, bathing, and tooth brushing. Individuals with private water wells should have their well water tested and disinfected, if necessary, prior to discontinuing distillation or boiling.
- Persons who purchase water from a public water supply may contact their water supply distributor to determine if the water is safe for personal use.
- The public should avoid contact with waste material, soil, or water in the area potentially affected by the spill.
- If the public comes into contact with waste material, soil, or water potentially affected by the spill, they should bathe and wash clothes thoroughly as soon as possible.

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