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**ELECTRIC
DISTRICT HEAT
WATER
WASTEWATER
SOLID WASTE**

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For information:
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For Immediate Release

BPU Spring Flushing of Water Lines to Begin April 29-May 1 in Falconer, Weather-Permitting; Falconer Pre-Flush April 29

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Water Division announces that spring flushing of water mains will begin with a pre-flush in Falconer on Friday, April 29, and with complete flushing in Falconer on Saturday, April 30, continuing throughout the BPU water system through Thursday, May 12, **weather permitting**.

Preliminary flushing in Falconer will take place beginning at 9 a.m. all day on Friday, April 29, in the area of Aldren, Ralph, Valmeere and Mapleshade, which may cause an isolated disturbance in that section of the Village. If Falconer customers in that area have not noticed a disturbance during pre-flushing in the past, customers probably will not notice pre-flushing.

The rest of fall flushing will start at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 30, in the Village of Falconer, and take place all Saturday night into Sunday until flushing of the entire Village of Falconer is completed

During Falconer flushing, there may be discolored water on the north side of Jamestown around the Buffalo Street area on Sunday.

Following the Falconer flush, crews next proceed into the northeast section of Jamestown (near JCC and the Lutheran) at 8 p.m. Sunday, May 1.

Flushing will proceed for two weeks throughout the rest of the BPU water system nightly from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., Sundays through Thursdays, until the process is finished. Once the Village of Falconer flushing is completed, no flushing will take place on Friday and Saturday nights. Flushing each night is weather permitting

Specific flushing locations will appear on the BPU website at www.jamestownbpu.com where customers may view actual maps showing the location of flushing that night. In addition, locations will be posted on FACEBOOK and Twitter. Page 2 of the April customer newsletter which comes with the bill includes nightly flushing location descriptions. **FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER**, nightly flushing location descriptions will be available by calling 661-1660 and selecting option 6.

Customers with questions about flushing schedules also may call BPU Communications at 661-1680. Customers who reach voice mail should leave their street address, the names of their streets at the end of the block and a telephone number in order that the BPU may call back as soon as possible with the flushing date. The Customer Service Office also can assist with questions at 661-1660.

Water customers should pay attention to flushing in their neighborhoods. If the flushing is taking place on streets near your home, even if it is not on your specific

street, you may experience discolored water. Be careful not to draw discolored water into your hot water systems (heating, clothes washer, or dishwasher) by running cold water in your bathtub *for a few moments* to see if the water has cleared.

If a customer does not use plumbing between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. on the night a home is scheduled for flushing, a resident may not even notice any discolored water.

“In the past, water employees flushed as far as time permitted each night so it was difficult to predict which neighborhoods would experience discolored water on which nights,” explains BPU Communications Coordinator Becky Robbins. “To make it easier for our customers, water employees now flush only in an announced area each night in order that residents are not caught unnecessarily with discolored water.”

“We flush our hydrants twice a year,” continues Robbins. “BPU employees open hydrants systematically, allowing water to run full force, flushing out sediments and minerals that have settled in pipes.”

Flushing not only cleans the pipes, but also helps achieve greater flows through the water mains. Flushing also provides the opportunity for valve and hydrant inspection to keep them in good working condition for fire protection.

The alternative to flushing is adding rust-inhibiting chemicals to the water, according to Robbins, which the utility has made a conscious decision not to do.

“Adding chemicals to our water supply could affect the taste of our water and would increase water distribution costs,” notes Robbins.

BPU Customer Service offers a rust stain remover to customers who may be caught with a load of laundry washed by mistake in discolored water. Local supermarkets also sell commercial products that assist in ridding laundry of such stains. Such products should be used to rewash the laundry *before it is dried*. The BPU Customer Service Office, located at 92 Steele Street, is open 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. weekdays.

For further information, contact Mrs. Robbins at 661-1680.