



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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UPDATE ON HIRST FARM WELL

PURCELLVILLE, Va. Monday, July 13, 2015 — Late Friday afternoon, the Town of Purcellville took five additional samples on the untreated (raw) source water at the well in addition to one sample from the treated side. Prior to the water being placed into the Town system, the water at this well goes through a filtration process and a disinfection process which uses chlorine. This process is put in place to treat issues of bacteria and other types of contamination.

Since the tests take approximately twenty-four hours to complete, the Town received notice Saturday evening that all five of the untreated (raw) water samples tested positive for bacteria but the finished treated water showed no presence of any bacteria. While we are disappointed that this well has shown signs of contamination, our confidence in our treatment and disinfection process is again validated based on these tests.

At this point, the Town will keep this well off-line and it will no longer be in service until we have discussed this issue with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and have permission to bring it back on line after an extensive disinfection process. We are confident at this point that none of our users have been negatively impacted and will work diligently with VDH to determine where and why this contamination occurred. In the past, this well has been a very dependable component of our system and we have not had any previous operational problems for more than twelve years.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

Purcellville is an award-winning town of nearly 8,300 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. It has been honored for its green initiatives, most recently with the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities. The Town has an elected Mayor and six Town Council members. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

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