



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TOWN WATER STAFF ADDRESSING TASTE AND ODOR CONCERNS**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va. July 11, 2016** – Over the past weekend, Town staff noticed a slight change in the taste and odor of the water produced in the Town’s water system. Specifically, water customers may notice a musty or earthy taste in their water. Although this represents a change from our water’s normal aesthetic properties, this water meets or exceeds all regulatory requirements and does not pose a public health risk.

The source of this issue is related to water coming from our surface water source located at the JT Hirst Reservoir. These type of situations typically occur during the hot summer months as staff work to limit the amount of algae or other organic material that blooms in the heat. This is not uncommon for water operations that pull surface water from reservoirs or rivers. Town staff is currently making additional changes to the treatment process at our water treatment plant to help minimize the changes in taste and odor. Staff is also making changes to reduce the amount of surface water being used to provide drinking water to the town by increasing the use of wells, which are unaffected by the heat. However, these treatment changes sometimes take several days because the potable water in storage must be turned over and combined with new water.

We appreciate customers’ patience as we are proactively addressing this aesthetic issue, and we assure all users that the water we provide is safe and clean water for all users.

### **The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

Purcellville is an award-winning town of nearly 8,500 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](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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