FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

We hope you have enjoyed this fourth annual report on the quality of Henderson’s water, as well as the other information included in this communication to you. As you can see from the water quality report, Henderson’s water is of an excellent quality. Henderson’s water is also an excellent value. From the tap you pay less than a penny for the bottle of water that may cost you a dollar at the supermarket.

Since our report to you last summer, we have worked to improve water pressure in some of our service areas. We constructed a new booster pumping station at Atkinson Park to replace one on Barrett Boulevard that we took out of service. This allows us to use the large volume of water stored in the water storage tank at Atkinson Park much more efficiently and to keep more water in reserve should we need it. Summer time is almost here and you are reminded of the separate irrigation meter that you may have installed that may help you save money when watering during dry periods.

We continue to try to make our customers aware of our policy regarding sewer backups and the services we can provide to prevent the backups. If you haven’t already done so, I would suggest you carefully read that portion of this report. Our staff stands ready to assist in helping you prevent a backup on your property. If you feel you are in an at-risk area, please call and take advantage of the technical assistance service that is free for our customers.

Over the next five years we will be incrementally implementing a program to improve our environment by improving the quality of the storm water reaching our streams and the Ohio River. This program is called Phase II storm water and is a federal mandate because Henderson is part of the Evansville “urban area.” Information about that program is included in this report.

We continue to look for feedback on the service we provide. When we do work in your area, we put bags on doors in an attempt to let you tell us how we are doing. I encourage you to return those bags. If you are not satisfied with our work, we will continue to work with you to the extent possible to make you a happy customer.

We continue to look for ways to increase the security and safety of our water supply. Please help us by reporting to the Henderson Police Department any suspicious activity that you might observe.

I encourage you to visit our web site at www.hudysaltd.org for information about our water wastewater, and storm water programs. If you have suggestions as to how we can serve you better, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone or e-mail.

John Tipp, General Manager

TYPE AND LOCATION OF WATER SOURCE

The employees of Henderson Water Utility are very excited to provide you with this year’s Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed and help you monitor the quality of our water and services we deliver to you every day of the year. Our goal is, and always will be, to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make continually to improve the water treatment processes and processes our water undergoes to comply with the requirements we are committed to ensuring the quality of your water remains at the highest possible level.

Our source for surface water comes from the Ohio River at approximately river mile marker 803, or the corner of St. and Water streets in Henderson. Surface water is distributed via rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, and reservoirs. As water travels over the surface of the land it dissolves naturally occurring minerals. In some cases, radioactive material can be picked up from the presence of animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial, inorganic, pesticides and herbicides, organic, and radioactive materials. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA enforces regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reported as, or expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800)-426-4791.

The area around your water source is mostly residential but also contains some industrial activity. A source water assessment with a summary of the system’s susceptibility to potential sources of contamination is not due to be completed until later this year; however, a preliminary source water assessment is available. A copy of the plan is available for inspection at the County Judge’s office or at the Green River Area Development District office in Owensboro, KY.

The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with administrative regulations in 401 KAR Chapter 8. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data in this table though representative, may be more than one year old.
DETECTS

Preliminary results from the current study suggest that the system is effective in reducing the levels of the contaminants below the acceptable limits. Further studies are needed to confirm these findings and to evaluate the long-term impact on the health of the community.

VULNERABILITY

populations with chronic diseases or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. ERYTHROCCCUS organisms are an important source of mesophilic and psychrophilic Vibrio and Plesiomonas that can cause gastrointestinal symptoms, including diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain.

DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

Rapid Impulse Detection (RID) - A technique used for the rapid detection of waterborne pathogens in drinking water. RID involves the use of rapid detection systems that can provide results within hours or days, allowing for quicker identification and response to potential waterborne outbreaks.

Non-Drinking (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Unregulated Contaminants - Contaminants that are not regulated by any federal or state water quality standards.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCIs are enforceable limits that are legally binding.

Enzyme-Linked Immunoabsorbent Assay (ELISA) - An immunological assay used to detect and quantify antigens in biological specimens.

Lowest Nontoxic Level (LNTL) - The lowest level of a contaminant that is shown to be toxic to human health.

Maximum Aerosol Disinfectant Level (MADL) - The highest level of a disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water. MADLs are established to protect against the growth of bacterial and fungal contaminants in drinking water.
CUSTOMERS’ RIGHT TO KNOW INFORMATION: If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact us at (270) 826-2924. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please contact us at www.HWUwater.org or join us at any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Bob Gan Administration Building.

SEWER BACKUPS IN HOMES OR BUSINESSES

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

A sewer backup in your home or business caused by a blockage in the Henderson system can be an unfortunate and frustrating situation. The Henderson Water Utility staff takes every precaution possible to prevent such events from occurring, but occasionally a line blockage or other circumstances can cause a backup to occur in a home or business.

1. How do I determine if my home or business is at risk of a sewer backup?

If your property is at risk, it is best to check your property and call your Henderson Water Utility office.

2. What can I do to prevent a sewer backup?

If you have a backup or are at risk of a backup, you can reduce the risk by:

a. Preventing blockages in the sewer system
b. Reducing the amount of grease and fats that enter the sewer system

c. Reducing the amount of debris that enters the sewer system

3. What to do if a backup occurs?

If you suspect that a backup is occurring, call the Henderson Water Utility Office at (270) 826-2924.

4. Is the Henderson Water Utility or the City responsible for damage from sewer backups?

Unfortunately, because these blockages in the system are random and unpredictable, under Section 23-18 of the City Code, HWU cannot be responsible for any damage to your property from a sewer backup. However, the City of Henderson may be able to help you with any technical assistance or necessary if you have difficulty removing the sewer backup.

Gravity Backwater Valve

Specifications, Installation, and Inspection/Maintenance

The gravity backwater valve should be installed at a depth of 30' or less below the ground or floor, a meter box or 16' pipe is adequate for the access. If the bottom ground or floor is greater than 30', a concrete or permanent valve pipe on the property line of 30' diameter or larger should be installed around the valve to allow access for inspection.

Inspection and Maintenance

After significant rainfall events or at least once every 6 months, the backwater valve should be inspected. The cleanout plug should be opened and the flapper in the valve removed and inspected. Replace the flapper if the valve is not free to operate. If the valve is damaged or broken, a new one should be installed.

Gravity Backwater Valve Specification

- Diameter: 3" or 4"
- Material: PVC
- Color: White

How to Specify

NDS #375P, #475P, or #575P PVC Backwater Valve, threaded access cap, elastomeric flapper gasket, neoprene access cap gasket, and removable uni-directional flow flapper.

A

H

C

Nuisance Area

attachment

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2. Reducing the amount of grease and fats that enter the sewer system
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The Clean Water Act required the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promulgate regulations that addressed the water-quality impacts from storm water. The initial thrust of this effort was called Phase 1 and was directed at cities in the United States with populations greater than 100,000. In 1996, EPA promulgated rules extending the storm water quality management program to cities less than 100,000 in population. This effort was called Phase 2 and included populated areas outside Phase 1 cities that were part of the "urbanized area" of the larger cities, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. The City of Henderson was automatically designated in the federal rules as requiring a storm water Quality Management Plan under Phase 2 because it was a part of the Evansville, Indiana Urbanized Area.

The Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, through its stormwater permits agreement with EPA, called the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination Program (KPDDES), is responsible for implementing the Phase 2 storm water program. The Cabinet, acting through the Division of Water, has developed a General Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems to implement the Phase 2 storm water program. Henderson has filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) with DOW indicating that Henderson has elected to accept the General Permit in lieu of a permit developed specifically for Henderson. The General Permit requires the implementation of six minimum controls detailed in the Federal rules. The minimum controls are: (1) Public Education and Outreach, (2) Public Involvement and Participation, (3) Initial Discharge Detection and Elimination, (4) Construction Site Runoff Control, (5) Post Construction Management for Development and Redevelopment, and (6) Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping.

The Storm Water Management Plan describes the City of Henderson's strategy for addressing the water quality impacts of storm water runoff within the corporate limits of the City of Henderson. The strategy listed in the plan implements, over a five-year period, the six minimum controls.

The lead agency in Henderson for this Storm Water Quality Management Plan is the Henderson Water Utility (HWU). Other agencies and entities may be identified through the process to assist HWU. The Five years anticipated for full implementation of the Storm Water Quality Management Plan ends on March 8, 2009. For more information or a copy of this plan please contact the Henderson Water Utility at (270) 828-2421.