

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jacksonville, IL – March 27, 2012

Jacksonville Mayor Andy Ezard and Superintendent of Utilities Operations Jack Cosner announced today that the Jacksonville Fire Department and the City of Jacksonville Utilities crews will begin flushing fire hydrants in the City of Jacksonville starting in early April with flushing to be completed by the end of May.

Last summer, due to the flood and the flooding of the Jacksonville Water Plant, the City of Jacksonville pumped well water into the water mains. At that time, iron deposits, or rust, which was already in the water mains, were broken loose when the flow of the water changed direction or the velocity of the water changed during the pumping of the well water. A yellow or light orange color of the water may have been experienced in homes and businesses in the City.

In April, when the fire hydrants are flushed, it is likely more rust will be in the system than in previous years due to last year's flood. Again, discolored water may be experienced when the Jacksonville Fire Department or City of Jacksonville Utilities crews are flushing the hydrants in your neighborhood. It is important to know that the water is safe to drink and to use. If discolored water is experienced, do not wash any light colored clothes as they may become stained. With normal use, the discolored water will clear up.