



# News Release

July 6, 2020

## Howard back on Lake Water

### For Immediate Release:

The Howard Water Utility temporarily used its emergency backup groundwater wells for several hours on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to supplement lake water supplies while locating a large watermain break that strained stored water volumes. Significant water loss began in the water system around 8:45 A.M., however the break could not be located until approximately 4:30 P.M. as it was obscured in a secluded area. At that time the break was isolated and use of the emergency wells ended several hours later. The Utility resumed the exclusive use of lake water on the same day.

Howard water customers did not experience any water service interruptions or operational issues. The wells produce high-quality drinking water but contains radium at levels slightly above the EPA standard. Radium is a contaminant that has long-term use health effects, however because the use was short term, the Utility does not believe that drinking the water during this time period was harmful to users health. The groundwater wells are regularly maintained, the water is tested according to regulations and are an approved emergency backup water source for these types of circumstances. The Utility did not receive any customer complaints about water quality or quantity while using its groundwater wells.

The Howard Water Utility wishes to thank its customers for their patience and understanding during the emergency.

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