



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

County Service Areas
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Wild Wings CSA Water System Update 05/01/19

During the past several summers, while water usage was at its highest in Wild Wings, both the Pintail and Canvas Back wells experienced low water levels. The low water levels resulted in the system coming very close to not having enough water to serve the community. In order to address this issue, the County Service Area made plans for the well pumps for each well to be lowered this year.

The work to lower the Canvas Back well pump has been completed and the contractors are now ready to proceed with lowering the Pintail well pump, as well as conducting some electrical maintenance and repairs. As you may recall, the Pintail well is used for the community's domestic water supply while the Canvas Back well is designated as a standby well due to arsenic levels above the maximum contaminant level (the legal threshold limit on the amount of a constituent that is allowed in public water systems). To complete the work on the Pintail well, it must be shut down and the Canvas Back well brought on line to temporarily serve water to the community.

The maximum contaminant level for arsenic is an annual average of 10 parts per billion (ppb). Due to arsenic levels slightly over the allowable limit, and the designation by the State as a standby well, the State permits the Canvas Back well to be used to supply water to Wild Wings residents for domestic use for 5 consecutive days, 3 times per year.

The work on the Pintail well is expected to take 3 to 5 days and is scheduled to begin on May 5. During that time, delivery of water to Wild Wings residents is expected to be as follows:

- May 5: water blended from both the Pintail and Canvas Back wells
- May 6-8: water solely from the Canvas Back well
- May 9: water blended from both wells

When the Canvas Back pumps are turned on again on May 5, it will reverse the water flow in the system. As a result, you may experience turbid (dirty-looking) water. If that occurs, run the faucets in your house until the water is clear, starting with the cold water to clean lines without going through your water heater. Should you find you are unable to obtain clear-looking water, call the water system operator, SUSP, at (916) 382-85209 for assistance.

Arsenic is a naturally occurring element. Long-term exposure to high levels of arsenic can affect people's health. The above activities will not result in long-term exposure to high levels of arsenic. Residents seeking more information on arsenic can find a fact sheet on the EPA's website at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-03/documents/arsenic_toxfaqs_3v.pdf.

May 10 Addendum: The work to lower the Pintail well pump has been extended due to the need for some unforeseen repairs. The well is now expected to be back online Tuesday, May 14, and as such, Canvas Back well water will be delivered until that time.