FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2020 Poly Service Line Replacement Program

In our continued efforts to provide safe and high-quality drinking water to our customers, Clifton Water District will begin upgrading over 150 water service lines and meter pits in Clifton Village South neighborhood (located between Bunting and Mesa Avenues, east of 32 Road). The Poly Service Line Replacement Program is an important and effective preventative replacement of older water service lines before they fail causing more significant repair activity.

The service lines being replaced are black polyethylene (Poly) pipe that was commonly used and installed over 30 years ago. These Poly lines are prone to frequent failures. The Poly pipe will be replaced with a more durable copper service line. In addition, the District is taking the opportunity to upgrade the entire meter pit and meter assembly including installing a check valve for backflow prevention. While making the improvements, the District will be installing an emergency shut off valve that is accessible to the customer on the outside of the meter pit.

The replacement activity will take place Monday – Friday from May 4th, through mid-July, 2020. There will be construction and disruptions in the area. The District will work to minimize these disruptions as much as possible. While driving through the work zones we are advising area residents to use caution and be attentive to any traffic control signs.

Residents will be receiving a letter notifying them of the activity in their area. The District’s repair crew will also communicate with residents if their service line is designated for replacement in advance of the work. As an additional reminder, residents will receive a phone call from our customer service department and a door hanger notice will be left 24-hours before the planned work at a property.

The District’s crews will focus on Sara Lane, Mesa Ave., Kennedy Ave., Gardner Way, and 32 1/8 Road.

The funding for the annual replacement project comes from the District’s Reserve Account that has been collected from water rates and the monthly System Investment Fee. Without effective water rates that address replacement of infrastructure, the service line replacement projects would not be possible.
In 2020 the District will be replacing over 150 individual service connections. The District has over 4,000 Poly service lines that are in need of replacement. A systematic and proactive replacement program saves a significant amount of money and disruption in the long run. Ninety percent (90%) of the District’s reportable leaks are Poly service lines. When a water service line leak occurs, the average repair cost is $2,000. The average cost to proactively replace the service line is $1,300. This is a $700 savings and is projected to save $2,800,000 to replace the 4,000 remaining service lines.

As a part of this upgrade project, the District will install a dual check valve for backflow prevention within the new meter pit. This installation the dual check backflow valve is an improvement that insures a one-way flow of water through the water pit. Clean water will flow into the customer’s home but the check valve will prevent water flowing backward into the District’s distribution system.

In homes built prior to the 1980’s, thermal expansion tanks were not commonly installed in household plumbing systems as required by plumbing code for new home construction today. As such, it may be necessary for customers to protect their household plumbing from possible pressure build-up caused by thermal expansion. Thermal expansion happens when water in a home is heated, for example, in your water heater. The hot water expands and pressure is built up in the household plumbing. A simple device called a thermal expansion tank may either already exist in the home or it can be installed to remedy the condition. The District recommends either a thermal expansion tank, or other pressure reducing device be incorporated into the household plumbing system.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact our main office at 970-434-7328.

Status updates will be made on the District’s website at www.cliftonwaterdistrict.org and on our Facebook Page at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Clifton-Water-District/464325530256897

Respectfully,

Clifton Water District