



CITY OF VICTORIA NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 20, 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Communications & Public Affairs, 361-485-3110

City's water supply storage capacity increases

After most residents had some water pressure levels restored yesterday, the City of Victoria this morning continues making progress in restoring water pressure throughout the system and increasing water storage capacity.

At this time yesterday, we were just beginning to push water into the south pressure plane, and had no water in towers 3 or 5, and the system pressure was 4 pounds per square inch at water plant no. 3. Now, the City has increased to 50 psi at plant no. 3.

In addition, the following progress has been made since our report yesterday afternoon:

- South pressure planes:
 - Tower 1 on the south pressure plane was restored to 80% capacity
 - Towers 3 and 5 on the south pressure plane was restored to 60% capacity
- North pressure planes:
 - Towers 4 and 6 on the north pressure plane were restored to 80% capacity

The City continues to monitor its tank levels and watch for additional water line breaks and leaks while pipes thaw and shift. Ground storage tanks are now at 80% capacity, and the City's public water system is running an average 11 million gallons of water, though active monitoring continues.

This morning, the City delivered additional bottles of water to Christ's Kitchen once they became operational and to the Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry. The City has been able to procure more than 1,400 cases of bottled water that has been supplied to local medical providers, front-line workers and organizations working to provide relief. Providing bottled water remains difficult as communities across Texas remain under boil water notices.

The City is also on a waiting list to receive water from the American Red Cross, although it is not known when and if the City will have enough water for mass distribution.

The City of Victoria remains under a boil water advisory. For the notice to be rescinded, the City must first maintain consistent high-water pressure across its system; then, it must submit samples for testing to verify that the water is free of contaminants. The testing process may be delayed as communities across the state submit water samples.

During this time, it's imperative that residents conserve water and refrain from activities that involve excessive water amounts including, leaving faucets on and running automatic laundry loads and dishwashers.

Golden Crescent Community Organizations Active in Disaster continues working to compile a list of organizations providing aid to become available at www.gccoad.org and on their Golden Crescent COAD on Facebook. In addition, residents can find resources by visiting the City's emergency weather/water webpage at www.victoriatx.gov/waterboil.

Information about local resources and mitigation efforts, as well as health information related to the boil water advisory, may be found at www.victoriatx.gov/waterboil. For more information about water service or to report a leak, call the City's water hotline at 361-485-3381. It will be operational every day, including weekends, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Within a few days of its launch, the hotline has received more than 2,000 calls.

Local leaders continue to meet regularly with each other and with state officials to strategize recovery efforts.

###