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Majority of South Jordan Residents are without Secondary Water Due to Utah Lake Algae Bloom

SOUTH JORDAN, UT – The majority of South Jordan residents that use secondary water for outside sprinkler irrigation are without water as of Monday afternoon.

South Jordan Water division employees began shutting down the connection points between water customers and the canals supplying the city's system late Sunday afternoon as a safety precaution in response to the toxic algal blooms that have closed Utah Lake and spread to the Jordan River.

The city has been working closely with response agencies monitoring the ongoing issue and are not yet able to identify when the water will be safe for use. Algal blooms can last for days or weeks and toxins can last for days after the bloom. A forecast for when the water can be used will be not possible for at least a week.

Residents that have pumps on their irrigation systems should make sure they have been shut off to avoid damage due to the lack of water flow.

The City reminds residents to follow backflow prevention requirements for using culinary drinking water to ensure protection against the contaminated water entering homes or the drinking water system. Backflow prevention requirements and measures can be found on the City's website at www.sjc.utah.gov

The City recommends that private irrigation users within city boundaries to use good judgement and follow the recommendations of the DEQ to discontinue water use until the toxins recede.

More information regarding these recommendations and updates regarding the Utah Lake and Jordan River water conditions can be found on the DEQs website at <http://deq.utah.gov/locations/U/utahlake/algal-bloom.htm>

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The City's secondary water system receives water from four different canal companies. The Welby Jacob Canal chose to shut down on Sunday, South Jordan Canal and Utah/Salt Lake Canal are continuing to flow the Utah Lake water, but due to the safety concern the city is choosing not to allow it through the secondary water system.

Utah Lake Distributing canal has been able to switch their water source to Provo River water and are continuing to provide water service. South Jordan has allowed the connections from the Utah Lake Distributing canal to remain open, residents on this portion of the system have not lost access to the water.

The City recommends that these residents also use caution regarding low water flows and their secondary water pumps.

The drinking water in South Jordan City has not been affected by this event and is safe for use.

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The City of South Jordan one of the fastest growing cities in the United States, is located 20 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, and home to more than 66,000 residents. In 2010, 2012, and 2014, South Jordan was named one of the Top 20 "Best Places to Live in America" by Money Magazine.