

Round Hill GID COVID-19 Information

As the world and nation continues to investigate, educate and regulate the public health risk, and subsequent reaction to COVID-19, I feel it is my responsibility to do the same. Below is information as it pertains to the community of Round Hill, specifically in regards to our water and sewer systems.

Q&A

Q: What is the Corona Virus and/or COVID-19?

A: The Corona Virus is part of a group of viruses that cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The most recently discovered coronavirus causes coronavirus disease COVID-19.

More scientific information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.htm>

Q: Can the COVID-19 virus spread through drinking water?

The COVID-19 virus has **NOT** been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.

Furthermore, RHGID has a 4-log removal filtration and disinfection process. 4-log removal means inactivation of 99.99% of pathogenic organisms; including viruses.

Another indicator of the effectiveness of the inactivation of pathogenic organisms is by measuring Free Chlorine Residual. This is the chlorine available to still fight pathogens or other organic matter. RHGID water operators measure and record this result every day. It is also continually measured by instrumentation that has alarms to alert via telephone should the level start to decrease.

Q: Can the COVID-19 virus spread through sewerage systems?

CDC is reviewing all data on COVID-19 transmission as information becomes available. At this time, the risk of transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 through sewerage systems is thought to be low. Although transmission of COVID-19 through sewage may be possible, there is no evidence to date that this has occurred. This guidance will be updated as necessary as new evidence is assessed.

Wastewater and sewage workers should use standard practices, practice basic hygiene precautions, and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) as prescribed for current work tasks. Round Hill GID operators employ these precautions during all sewer system activities. All sewer activity has been limited to emergency only, and extra sanitation procedures have been enacted, as well.

****As toilet paper shortages continue, please DO NOT FLUSH ANYTHING OTHER THAN TOILET PAPER. Flushing wipes, paper towels, or any other item down the toilet can clog our sewers and damage our pumps. Repairing pipes and pumps is expensive and can affect rates.**

If you need any other information, please call me directly at (775) 588-2571 (office) or (775) 790-3623 (cell).

- Andrew Hickman - Round Hill GID District Manager