



WASHINGTON COUNTY
WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
July 5, 2018

Contact: Karry Rathje
Public Information Manager
435.673.3617
karry@wcwcd.org

QUAIL CREEK RESERVOIR CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
JULY 10 AND 11 FOR TREATMENT

Quail Creek Reservoir will be closed to public use on July 10 and 11 for a chemical treatment to remove algae. The algae do not pose a public health threat but have the potential to affect the aesthetic quality of the drinking water. The municipal customers of the Washington County Water Conservancy District (district) will receive treated water from Sand Hollow Reservoir during the treatment – water quality and deliveries will not be affected.

The treatment will consist of dropping approximately 30,000 pounds of copper sulfate crystals into the water via helicopter. Copper sulfate is frequently used in municipal and irrigation systems to treat algae.

Prior to the treatment, a dive team will identify areas in the reservoir with the highest algae concentrations for target drops. The divers will monitor drop zones and the effectiveness of the treatment.

The district has performed multiple chemical treatments on its reservoirs throughout the years; the last was in 2014. “Our job is to deliver a high-quality water supply to our cities,” said Brie Thompson, associate general manager for the district. “Treating our water sources is a routine and necessary step of that responsibility.”

The district’s other reservoirs, including Sand Hollow, will be open to the public for recreational activities during this treatment.

About Quail Creek Reservoir

Quail Creek is an off-stream reservoir that receives water from the Virgin River to serve the population and economy of Washington County, UT. The \$23.5 million reservoir was built by the Washington County Water Conservancy District in 1985 as an essential storage facility. At capacity, it stores 40,325 acre feet of water. It is currently about 65 percent full.

About Washington County Water Conservancy District

The Washington County Water Conservancy District, a not-for-profit public agency, was established in 1962 to manage Southern Utah’s regional water needs. The district oversees the development, stabilization, management, acquisition and conservation of water resources in Washington County in an ongoing effort to provide a safe, sustainable water supply for current and future generations. Visit www.wcwcd.org for more information.