

UPDATE REGARDING RIDGLEA WATER SYSTEM AS OF 5/16/2025

In 2024, the Township received intermittent reports of discolored, yellowish, or brownish water in various areas of the Ridglea Water System. In response, the Township increased the frequency of water main flushing from biannual to quarterly to reduce any mineral buildup within the distribution system.

Reports of discolored water increased toward the end of 2024 and have continued into 2025. Since November 2024, the Township has been actively investigating the cause of the discoloration and evaluating effective solutions.

Testing revealed elevated levels of iron and manganese in the water. These minerals are naturally occurring in groundwater and, while not harmful to health at the levels typically found in drinking water, they can cause discoloration and staining. Additionally, the routine chlorine treatment used to disinfect the water supply can react with these dissolved minerals to form particles or sediment. This sediment sometimes can accumulate in the distribution system and become dislodged, leading to visible discoloration in household water.

As part of the Township's response, different types of filters have been evaluated for effectiveness and compatibility with existing infrastructure to minimize the cost of this unanticipated project.

After identifying a suitable filter, a pilot study was conducted on a small scale to evaluate its effectiveness. Following several weeks of testing, the filter was found to be effective. Design work for the full-scale system installation is now underway.

Once finalized, the design will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval. After DEP approval, the project will be advertised for public bids as required by law and awarded at a public meeting. Following the award, the Township will coordinate with the selected contractor to schedule installation as soon as possible.

We ask that any residents experiencing water discoloration report the issue promptly to the Township Office by calling 610-469-0444 or emailing info@southcoventry.org. Please include the property address, date, time, a description of the watercolor, and the duration of the discoloration in your report.

The Township will continue to conduct targeted flushings in response to reported issues in an effort to remove mineral buildup and sediment as it occurs.