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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New guidelines for drinking water; filtering recommended for infants

Northfield, MN (July 17, 2019) _ Based on new guidelines, the City of Northfield is recommending households with infants one year of age or younger to filter water for manganese before consumption.

The Minnesota Department of Health has set new guidance levels for manganese in drinking water for infants one year old and younger. For infants who drink tap water or drink formula made from tap water, the level is 100 micrograms per liter or less. For infants who never drink tap water or formula made from tap water and everyone in your household over one year old, the level is 300 micrograms per liter or less.

As part of routine drinking water testing, the City of Northfield in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Health, took water samples on June 20, 2019. Results are expected within the next two to three months. The City anticipates the manganese results to be slightly over 100 micrograms per liter based on samples taken in 2012.

Homeowners can remove manganese at their home by using any of the following:

- Carbon filter
- Distillation system or distilled water
- Water filtration system
- Reverse osmosis water system
- Water softener

Per the U.S. Environment Protection Agency, public water systems are not required to treat for manganese within drinking water. Manganese naturally occurs in drinking water and can be found in rocks and soil.

For more information, please visit the city's webpage related to manganese at <https://ci.northfield.mn.us/1293/Manganese-in-Drinking-Water>

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