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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Yearly system maintenance at water supplier to start *North Texas Municipal Water District conducts annual procedure*

PROSPER (February 22, 2019) The North Texas Municipal Water District's annual maintenance of the water distribution system that supplies Prosper homes and businesses starts on March 4 and concludes on April 1.

The maintenance includes a temporary change in the way water is disinfected. Disinfection keeps drinking water free of harmful microorganisms, such as parasites and viruses. Normally, two chemicals are used in the disinfection process, chlorine and ammonia. During the month-long change, the water supplier uses only free chlorine to keep water disinfected as it travels through pipes. This is a common practice for as many as 40 percent of water providers which use the two-chemical process.

Tests conducted by both NTMWD and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) confirm that the quality of the water remains high each year during its annual disinfectant change, according to Prosper Water Education Coordinator Tristan Cisco.

"When ammonia is removed during the maintenance period, some people may notice a change in the water because of the chlorine," she said. "For them, taking some simple steps may minimize the taste and odor. For example, placing a pitcher of water in the refrigerator overnight or adding a slice of citrus to the water can help."

During the temporary chemical composition change, there may be instances where Prosper personnel may flush water from fire hydrants, helping the chlorine-disinfected water move through the system. The combination of converting to chlorine disinfectant and flushing the pipes helps maintain the system and keep water safe year-round.

NTMWD has posted new resources online, including fact sheets, frequently asked questions, infographics, videos, and guidelines for questions about water quality. For more information, residents may visit www.NTMWD.com/safewater and the TCEQ at www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/disinfection/temporary-free-chlorine-conversion.

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ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 24,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."