

## NORTH TABLE MOUNTAIN REPORT – MARCH 2014

[WWW.NTMWATER.ORG](http://WWW.NTMWATER.ORG)

### Flooding Effects and Water Quality

During September of 2013 our area experienced the worst flooding seen in many years. Many of our water supplies were adversely affected including Ralston Reservoir which provides the residents of North Table Mountain, Arvada, and a large portion of Denver with their drinking water. Normally, the quality of water in the reservoir is exceptional, allowing us to serve some of the highest quality drinking water in the region to our customers. For several weeks after the flood, the water in Ralston Reservoir was more than 400 times murkier than usual. It was quite literally just a few steps down from mud. Denver was able to shut down their treatment plant that draws from Ralston and switch to an alternate supply. North Table Mountain and Arvada didn't have that option. Within just a few hours North Table Mountain was able to retool the treatment process and find the optimal chemical dosages to restart the treatment plant and satisfy the demands of our customers. Many of you have noticed the earthy taste and/or odor in your drinking water; this has been common for all of the customers of Ralston Reservoir. The quality of the water in the reservoir has improved immensely over the past few months, but has not recovered completely to the pre-flood conditions. It will still take a while to get back to normal quality.

We at North Table Mountain continue to supply our customers with safe drinking water.

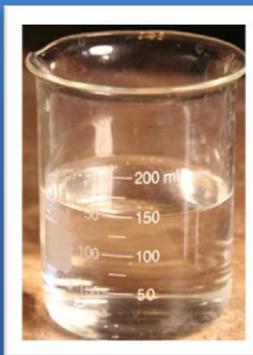
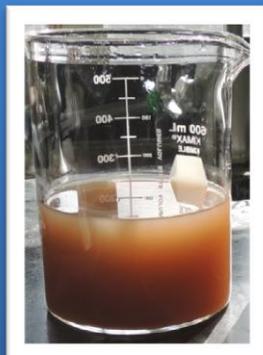
**\*\* We would like to thank all of our customers that reduced their water use during the first few weeks after the flood and allowed us to operate at a level most beneficial for treatment. We would also like to say thank you for your patience as we transition back to our high quality drinking water. \*\***

Turbidity- a measurement used to indicate the clarity of water.

The water treatment plant uses turbidity to measure the presence of natural particles in our drinking water.

Below are pictures of High Turbidity versus Low Turbidity-

High Turbidity creates an earthy taste and/or odor present in our drinking water.



After the flood, running water with high turbidity through our pretreatment process twice helped provide the best quality water possible.