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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF RALEIGH ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR PHASE 3 OF PRESSURE ZONE SWITCHOVER

WAKE FOREST, NC – February 23, 2011 – Following successful pressure zone switchovers in the Phase 1 and 2 areas of northern Wake Forest, City of Raleigh Public Utilities officials recently announced plans for Phase 3.

Implementation of the third phase is scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2011. The project will affect areas east of Capital Boulevard (US-1) and west of Gilcrest Farm Road, from just north of Old Historic Downtown Wake Forest to the Wake/Franklin County line, including the following subdivisions, developments, and commercial centers: Capital Boulevard Business Center, Harris Crossing, Wallridge, Harris Point, Remington Woods, Royall Mill Townes, Royal Mill Apartments, Creekwood Townhomes, Village of Olde Mill Stream, Woodside at Olde Mill Stream, Olde Chestnut Townes, Olde Mill Stream, The Meadows, Richland Hills, Edgeford Park, Sedgefield, Hunters Crossing and Sedgefield North.

A map of the area affected by the Phase 3 pressure zone switchover is available for viewing on the Town's website at www.wakeforestnc.gov/water_pressureincrease.aspx and in the lobby of town hall, 301 S. Brooks St.

The pressure zone switchover will produce approximately 80 pounds of water pressure for close to 850 City of Raleigh water customers in the Phase 3 area. Officials say that although property owners will likely consider the water pressure increase beneficial, they should take a few precautions to prevent potential problems.

Most importantly, residents and businesses should verify whether they have a pressure reducing valve (PRV) and, if not, have one installed. The N.C. Plumbing Code requires a PRV on all water services with a delivery pressure of greater than 80 pounds of pressure. The verification and installation of the PRV are the responsibility of the homeowner and business owner.

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The Town of Wake Forest has posted a link on its website at www.wakeforestnc.gov/water_pressureincrease.aspx highlighting various types of PRVs to assist property owners in locating and/or determining whether one is already installed in their plumbing system. Anyone requiring additional assistance is encouraged to consult a North Carolina-licensed plumber.

From now through Tuesday, April 12, the City of Raleigh will reimburse homeowners up to \$275 for the cost of the installation of a PRV for properties that do not have one. The PRV reimbursement program applies to new installations only - not replacements. The reimbursement is limited to the actual cost associated with the installation of the pressure reducing valve or \$275, whichever is less.

The cost of the Town of Wake Forest permit fee required for plumbing modifications is an eligible expense and can be applied to the \$275 reimbursement limit. However, the cost(s) associated with the inspection for locating and/or replacing existing pressure reducing valves are not eligible expenses for reimbursement.

Business owners are not eligible for reimbursement.

Homeowners seeking reimbursement should submit a copy of the invoice for the work with the PRV Cost Reimbursement Application to City of Raleigh, Attention: Jewell Wiggins, Public Utilities Department, Water Pressure Increase Project (Phase 3), P.O. Box 590, Raleigh, NC 27602. Applications are available for download on the Town's website at www.wakeforestnc.gov/water_pressureincrease.aspx and may also be obtained at the Wake Forest Town Hall, 301 S. Brooks St.

All property owners are also encouraged to check their plumbing system to identify components that may be prone to failure during the pressure increase. Raleigh Public Utilities officials say that recent history indicates that washing machine hoses and water heaters are often the most vulnerable.

Finally, property owners should monitor their plumbing systems between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2011. Anyone who cannot should ensure that someone is present at the residence or business to keep an eye on the plumbing system. Otherwise, they should turn off the water supply at the shutoff valve inside the property until someone is available to monitor the system.

The City of Raleigh will mail a letter to all affected property owners concerning the water pressure increase. The mailing will include a map of the affected area and a PRV Cost Reimbursement Application.

If you are a property owner in the Phase 3 area and you do not receive a notification letter from the City of Raleigh, or if you would like more information, contact City of Raleigh Assistant Public Utilities Director Donna Jackson at (919) 524-5461 or Donna.Jackson@raleighnc.gov.

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About the Wake Forest and Raleigh Water and Sewer System Merger

In July 2005 the Town of Wake Forest and the City of Raleigh merged their water and sewer systems. In accordance with the regional utility plan, the City of Raleigh assumed sole responsibility for operating, maintaining, improving and expanding the water and wastewater collection system that serves the Town of Wake Forest. Since then, the two municipalities have worked together to refine a schedule of upgrades and improvements to Wake Forest's water and sewer system.

The City of Raleigh owns and operates the water and wastewater system that provides service to residents within the urban service area designated for the Town of Wake Forest. The Town retained authority concerning when and where new water and sewer services can be extended to support growth and development within its planning and zoning jurisdiction, subject to conditions in the inter-local agreement.

For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov.