



— **MEDIA ALERT** —

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Mountain Water Company begins water main project on S. 5th Street W.

Infrastructure improvement project slated to continue into August.

MISSOULA, Mont. (May 4, 2015) — Mountain Water Company is asking commuters and residents to expect detours and be alert to project crews as the company undertakes a water main replacement project on South Fifth Street West.

Today, Mountain Water crews began work to replace a 91-year-old main on South Fifth Street between Russell and Orange streets. The project, which involves the replacement of 6-inch Kalem main pipe with 8-inch ductile main, is scheduled to continue until mid-August.

“The Fifth Street project is an important part of our ongoing water main replacement program,” said John Kappes, president of Mountain Water Company. “This project will help Mountain Water continue to deliver high-quality water service efficiently and reliably to the Missoula community for decades to come.”

Mountain Water has coordinated closely with the city of Missoula on its sidewalk replacement and repair project in this same area to minimize impacts to the public. Mountain Water is also coordinating with Montana Rail Link to bore a new 12-inch casing under MRL’s Bitterroot Spur railway and pull an 8-inch, high-density polyethylene pipe through that segment.

Work on the project will begin at the intersection of S. Fifth and Russell streets and will continue in stages progressing eastward toward Orange Street. Two- to three-block sections of South Fifth Street will be closed for no more than three weeks at a time, and traffic detours will be clearly marked.

Hours and operations of businesses along South Fifth Street are not expected to be affected by the project. Temporary water will be provided to businesses that could be impacted by a brief water shutdown.

Commuters who drive, walk or bike through the area are urged to slow down and use caution in and around construction zones. South Third Street is a recommended alternate route for those passing through the area.

Project updates will be posted at mtnwater.com or on Mountain Water's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/MountainWaterCo).

About Mountain Water Company

Mountain Water Company provides quality tap water, irrigation and fire flow to 72,000 residents in Missoula through 37 wells, 22 booster stations, 24 storage facilities with a capacity of more than 10.1 million gallons, and 320 miles of main and more than 23,000 service lines. Additional information may be found online by visiting mtnwater.com or, on Facebook, www.facebook.com/MountainWaterCo.

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