

Public Notice

DRINKING WATER WARNING

TESTS SHOW PRESENCE OF *E. COLI* BACTERIA



DO NOT USE THIS WATER FOR:

- Drinking
- Food Preparation
- Making Ice
- Brushing Teeth
- Manual Dishwashing

One or more water sample results have detected *E. coli* bacteria in this water supply. To protect public health, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has put in place the water use restrictions listed in the bullets above, as long as coliform bacteria are present.

Possible Health Effects

- *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Take Special Precautions for Hand Washing, Bathing, and Showering

- If untreated water is used for hand washing, a commercially produced hand sanitizer wipe, lotion, or cream should be used following hand washing. Infants and young children should not bathe using contaminated water, since they may ingest water during bathing.

Steps We Are Taking

Until the contamination problem has been corrected, safe drinking water is being provided at the following location:

In addition, we are taking the following steps to correct the problem:

If you have any questions, contact: _____

For additional information

Minnesota Department of Health
651-201-4700
health.noncommunitycompliance@state.mn.us

Instructions for Public Notice

When do I use this notice?

- Post this Public Notice within 24 hours of receiving notification of water sampling results which show the presence of *E. coli* bacteria in the water supply.

How do I use this notice?

- Complete the notice by providing the following information:
 - Location where safe drinking water is provided;
 - Steps being taken to correct the problem; and
 - Name and phone number of a contact person at the public water system.
- Post copies of the Public Notice in conspicuous locations throughout the areas served by the water system.
- Food and beverage establishments should post a notice at entry area(s), and should inform customers that bottled water is used for all food and beverage purposes.
- Lodging establishments should post a notice at check-in and should inform customers that bottled water for drinking is provided in their rooms.

How long must I post the notice?

- Notice(s) must remain in place until sampling results confirm that coliform bacteria are no longer present in the water system.
- MDH or your local health agency will inform you when the notices may be removed.

Am I required to post this notice?

- Yes. Public notification is required for violations of drinking water standards under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4720. Failure to post the Public Notice will place the system in violation of these regulations.
- Please note that this notice contains required health effects language. Should you choose to modify the notice, first consult with your MDH Compliance Officer.