

NOTICE OF CHLORINATION TO DISINFECT WATER SYSTEM
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Tests Show Presence of Coliform Bacteria

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We took [number] samples during the month of [month]. During [month], [number] of our samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is no more than 1 sample per month may do.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves.

Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment of distribution systems. As a result, (name of water system) will be disinfecting its system over the next few days.

Some people, including immuno-compromised people, some elderly, and infants may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns consult your doctor.

What is the water system doing?

(Name of Water System) will be adding chlorine to the system on (beginning date) until (end date). The addition of chlorine to disinfect the water may react with iron and/or manganese that may be deposited in the water mains, breaking it loose and causing some temporary discoloration of the water. This could cause a black or reddish brown color, but it does not present a health threat. Citizens can let the water run for a few minutes to flush the faucets of the discolored water before using it for cooking or laundry. The chlorine in the water may cause some problems in fish tanks as well as in commercial operations like bait shops. **It is recommended that people affected by this find a different source of water during this period or use commercially available chemicals that neutralize the chlorine.**

(System may add additional corrective actions being taken in this section)

We will inform you when additional samples show no coliform bacteria. We anticipate resolving the problem by (date).

For more information or to learn more about protecting your drinking water, please contact _____ at _____.

If other people such as tenants, residents, patients, students or employees receive water from you, it is important that you provide this notice to them by posting it in a conspicuous location or by direct hand or mail delivery. Water System Identification #

Source: Minnesota Department of Health