



Making Sense of Water System Advisories and Notices

TYPE OF NOTICE	MEANING	WHAT TO DO
System Pressure Advisory	Contaminants could be present in water due to system pressure dropping below the state minimum of 20 pounds per square inch. No contaminants have been confirmed. Water from the affected area is being tested for bacteria. Results are returned in 24 hours.	As a precaution until further notice, boil water or use bottled water for any consumption, including for drinking, ice making, brushing of teeth, pet water, handwashing, dishwashing and food preparation. Vigorous boiling for one minute should kill any disease-causing organisms.
Boil Water Notice	Total coliform bacteria have been detected in water samples from the area. Coliforms can indicate the presence of potentially harmful bacteria and trigger testing for <i>E. coli</i> bacteria.	As a precaution until further notice, boil water or use bottled water for any consumption, including for drinking, ice making, brushing of teeth, pet water, handwashing, dishwashing and food preparation. Vigorous boiling for one minute should kill any disease-causing organisms.
<i>E. Coli</i> Boil Water Notice	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria have been detected in water samples from the area. <i>E. coli</i> can indicate contamination from human or animal wastes.	Until further notice, boil water or use bottled water for any consumption, including for drinking, ice making, pet water, brushing of teeth, handwashing, dishwashing and food preparation. Vigorous boiling for one minute should kill any disease-causing organisms.
Do Not Drink Water Notice	A harmful contaminant has been found in the water system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until further notice, do not consume or provide water to pets. This includes making ice, brushing teeth, handwashing, dishwashing and preparing food. • If you or someone who consumes town water exhibits any associated symptoms, contact your health care provider and the Health Department at 919-245-2400.
Do Not Use Water Notice	An unknown contaminant was found in the water system. Testing will occur to determine next steps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until further notice, do not use or provide water to pets. This includes for drinking, ice making, brushing of teeth, handwashing, dishwashing, laundry, bathing or showering, food preparation and toilet flushing. Bottled water should be used for all the listed necessities. • Once the contaminant has been identified, if you or someone who consumes town water exhibits any associated symptoms, contact your health care provider and the Health Department at 919-245-2400.

See the full frequently asked questions for additional information, including what to do after an advisory or notice is lifted.

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