

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Pembroke Water is contaminated with E.Coli

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

We were notified on 8.8.08 that E.coli bacteria was detected in repeat samples taken on 8.6.08. This bacteria can make you sick, and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

We took 28 samples for coliform bacteria during August. Three of those samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than one sample per month/5 percent of our samples may do so. In addition, three of those samples showed the presence of E. coli bacteria.

What should I do?

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation **until further notice.**

- Fecal Coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
- 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.
- The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

What happened? What is being done?

High Street Tank was isolated. Additional chlorine is being introduced into the distribution system. Additional sampling is being done until the problem has been resolved.

For more information, please call 781-293-3874 between the hours of 7 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Pembroke Water Department