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www.portlandonline.com/water



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DRINKING WATER WARNING

Water delivered by Portland Water Bureau, Burlington, Palatine Hill, and Valley View Water Districts could be contaminated with potentially harmful bacteria

PORTLAND WATER BUREAU CUSTOMERS WEST OF THE WILLAMETTE RIVER AND CUSTOMERS OF BURLINGTON, PALATINE HILL AND VALLEY VIEW WATER DISTRICTS SHOULD BOIL WATER BEFORE USING

Routine water quality samples for total coliforms, including *E. coli*, were confirmed for fecal contamination in a Washington Park open reservoir on November 28, 2009. Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these waters can cause short-term effects, such as 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.

These symptoms are not only caused 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 Should I do? What does this mean to me?

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST OR USE BOTTLE WATER.** Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Bring all water to a rolling boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

What is being done?

The Portland Water Bureau has taken the reservoir out of service. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 24 hours.

For more information, please contact Portland Water Bureau at 503-823-7770 or 1120 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR, 97204. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 copies by hand or mail.

For more information and updates on this situation, visit www.portlandonline.com/water.

This notice is being sent to you by Portland Water Bureau. State Water System ID#: OR4100657.
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