

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Showed Coliform Bacteria in the Olde Milford Water system

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took one (1) sample to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during September, 2009. One (1) of our samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than one (1) sample per month/a percent of samples) may do so. Furthermore, we took four (4) more samples which showed NO presence of coliform.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concern, consult your doctor.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants: and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of inferior by microbes are available from EPA'S Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria 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 or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or E. coli, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.**

What is being done?

The samples were taken at one of our sewage treatment plants wash sinks. We believe that this was an incorrect area for the lab to draw a system sample from since it is an area in which the utility operators normally would wash up after working in the plant. It is a poor indicator of how clean your water is. Further testing in the area at users residences shows that there is no problem with your water supply and that the Sewage treatment plants industrial sinks are poor indicators of your potable water system.

For more information, please contact Kelly Love at 973-728-2711 or the West Milford MUA, 1810 Macopin Rd., West Milford, NJ.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by The West Milford MUA.

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