

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR
DRINKING WATER

Tests Show Coliform Bacteria in the Olde Milford Estates Water Supply

The Olde Milford Estates water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as consumers of the water, you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Specifically, TWO (2) routine samples collected 08-01-11, and THREE (3) out of six (6) repeat samples collected on 08-03-2011 were total Coliform positive. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month.

What should I do?

- X **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- X If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection 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. 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 treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect Coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if any other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal Coliform or E. coli, are present. **We did not find any of the E. coli bacteria in out testing.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately.

What happened? What is being done?

- X The problem was caused due to a loss of chlorination on August 3, 2011 which has since been restored on August 5, 2011.
- X The water system at the Olde Milford Estates will continue to monitor chlorine levels and conduct coliform testing to ensure the problem has been corrected. As per NJDEP regulations, FIVE (5) additional routine samples will be taken in September 2011 to check the quality of the water.
- X The NJDEP was contacted on August 5th, 2011 in regards to this issue, and a case number was issued by that office. The case number is 11-08-05-1226-42 and should be used when referring to this incident.
- X Please share the 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).

For more information, please contact **Ms. Kelly Love, West Milford Municipal Utilities Authority at 973-506-7330**. This notice is posted by the **West Milford MUA**.

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