



City of Greenfield

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Greenfield has Levels of Coliform Bacteria Above the Drinking Water Standard

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 26 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during May 2019. Two samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month may do so.

What Should You Do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- 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 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, and further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.**
- 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 infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What was done?

While it is possible to get a positive total coliform test when there is very low residual chlorine in the system, it is not typical. The total coliform test is extremely sensitive which is why it is used as an indicator sample. This sampling location is protected from the elements, but we will be proactive and start flushing the sampling point on a weekly basis. This will ensure high the quality of the water in the samples by moving water through the sample bib.

We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent distribution testing completed in May and June 2019. For more information, please contact Mr. Arturo Felix, Operations Manager for the City of Greenfield water system at (831) 674-2635 or email at publicworks@ci.greenfield.ca.us

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

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by City of Greenfield.

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