

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Tests showed coliform bacteria in the City of Grayling

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 the situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 4 routine samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during the month of December 2016. 1 out of 4 of those samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, 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 healthcare 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. 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.

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the systems 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.

What happened? What was done?

After the sample came back positive, the D.E.Q. was notified and we followed the protocol for re-sampling. Bacteria were still present, so chlorine was introduced into the water system and the hydrants were flushed. Flushing the hydrants pulled the chlorine through the problem spots in the system. The system was then re-sampled. These samples came back negative. Chlorine is still being added until further notice as a precautionary guard against a re-growth of the bacteria.

For more information, please contact Kyle Bond DPW Superintendent at 989-348-2131