

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

TAHOE CITY PUD TIMBERLAND WATER SYSTEM Had Levels of Coliform Bacteria Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We took 13 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during June 2018. Four of those samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample may do so.

What should I 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 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.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately. However, we are still finding coliforms in the drinking water.
- 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?

A routine total coliform sample was collected on June 19, 2018 and came back positive for total coliform. The four required follow up samples, were collected on June 21, 2017, of which three samples came back positive for total coliform. All samples were negative for E.coli. In addition all samples taken from the well source were negative, indicating the source of bacteria was most likely in the distribution piping in the roads.

What is being done?

On June 22, 2018 District staff introduced chlorine into the system to try and eliminate the presence and source of the total coliform bacteria. Chlorinated water was flushed into the entire system and to all accessible fire hydrants. Chlorination occurred until June 25, 2018 when it was discontinued. Once the presence of chlorine was no longer detected in the system, four additional follow up samples were collected on June 27, 2018. All sample results were negative for any bacteria. At this point the District has not determined the exact cause of the source of the total coliform bacteria, however water stagnation may have simply been the cause. We are evaluating all potential water stagnation points to determine if any further corrective action is necessary.

We apologize for the temporary chlorination of your water system, but it was necessary to protect the health and safety of our customers. To try to continue to maintain this system as unchlorinated, the District may also implement annual or semi-annual chlorination and flushing as additional protection from this situation recurring in the future. For more information, please contact Tony Lalotitis, Director of Utilities at 530 580-6053 or by email at: tlalotitis@tcpud.org

Lastly, in the future, if you would like to receive this correspondence electronically and that we may reach out to you in a more expeditious fashion, please send us an email including your local (Tahoe) physical address. Please address the email to: kalthof@tcpud.org

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)]:

- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.

This notice is being sent to you by the Tahoe City Public Utility District – Timberland Water System Public Water System ID#: 3100029. Date distributed: 7/2/18.