

DRINKING WATER WARNING

The City of Fort Lauderdale's Ground Water Well Tested Positive for a Fecal Indicator

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

Our water system recently detected a fecal indicator, *E. coli* (*see definition below), in one of our ground water wells. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. On 8/7/15, we collected a sample from a ground water well. The sample was incubated for 24 hours and the results tested positive for *E. coli* on 8/8/15. Also a sample was taken for the finished water from the Fiveash Treatment Plant on 8/7/15 and was incubated for 24 hours. The finished water results tested negative for *E. coli* on 8/8/15.

What should I do? What does this mean?

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- **Fecal indicators are microbes whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term health effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.**
- The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

The well has been taken offline, it is being flushed, retested and reevaluated. Result will be provided to the Department of Health and we will inform you when tests show no *E. coli* and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 24 hours.

For more information, please contact The City of Fort Lauderdale, Customer Operations Center at 954-828-8000. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**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 City of Fort Lauderdale. State Water System ID#: 4060486 .

Date distributed: _____.