

UNSAFE WATER ALERT

Keeler CSD Water is Contaminated with *E. coli*

DO NOT DRINK YOUR WATER

Failure to follow this advisory could result in illness.

E. coli bacteria were found in the water supply from samples collected August 14, 2023. These bacteria can make you sick and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

The State Water Resources Control Board, Inyo County Health Department, and Keeler CSD are advising residents of Keeler to NOT USE THE TAP WATER FOR DRINKING AND COOKING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

While boiling the water will inactivate bacteria and other microbes, doing so will concentrate the naturally occurring arsenic. Do NOT boil the water; instead please continue to use the bottled water that is provided for drinking and cooking.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT DRINK YOUR TAP WATER---USE ONLY BOTTLED WATER.** Bottled water should be used for all drinking (including baby formula and juice), brushing teeth, washing dishes, making ice and food preparation **until further notice**.
- **DO NOT TRY AND TREAT THE WATER YOURSELF.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, adding chlorine or other disinfectants, or letting water stand will not make the water safe.
- *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, 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 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.

What happened? What is being done?

Bacterial contamination can occur when increased run-off enters the drinking water source (for example, following heavy rains). It can also happen due to a break in the distribution system (pipes) or a failure in the water treatment process.

E. coli was detected in samples collected from the well, the tank and the distribution system on August 14. Follow up sampling is being conducted this week in order to better understand the cause of the contamination. Maintenance on the well and tank and other corrective actions will be performed and we will inform you when tests show no bacteria. We anticipate resolving the problem within two weeks.

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 public 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.

For more information call:

Water Utility contact: Dawn White, Water Quality Manager, 916-717-9375

State Water Resources Control Board at: Mojave District, 909-383-4328

Local County Health Department: Inyo County Public Health

This notice is being sent to you by Keeler CSD. California Public Water System ID # CA1400036. Date Distributed: August 16, 2023

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