



August 12, 2013
For Immediate Release
Village Manager's Office

DRINKING WATER ALERT

The Village of Deerfield water has been found to be contaminated with fecal coliform. **BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING.** Fecal coliform bacteria was found in the water supply on 8/12/13. This bacteria can make you sick, and is a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

What should I do?

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 coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

The symptoms above can result from many causes other than 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 about drinking water from their health care providers.

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), a failure in the water treatment process, or through a cross-connection.

The Village of Deerfield Water Department will be performing 10 tests throughout the system over the next 24 hours. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 48 hours. You will be notified when the drinking water alert has been lifted.

For more information, please contact the Village of Deerfield Department of Public Works and Engineering, at 847.317.7245 or by email at: PublicWorks@deerfield.il.us. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the USEPA's 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.

This notice is being sent to you by the Village of Deerfield.
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