

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Cooke City Interim Requirements

Our water system is in violation of a drinking water standard. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation.

On May 1, 2002, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality classified our water system as being under the direct influence of surface water and ordered us to filter the water in addition to disinfecting. As of this date we have installed an interim filtration system and are providing disinfection.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water. A home filter will not necessarily solve the problem, because not all home filters protect against parasites. Call NSF International at 1(800) NSF-8010 or the Water Quality Association at 1(800) 749-0234 for information on appropriate filters.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, people with an infant, 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. We do not know of any cases of contamination. However, until improvements are made, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply.

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

What is being done?

Our Water System will be monitoring turbidity (cloudiness) of the water twice daily, and submitting one water sample on Monday and one on Wednesday to check for the presence of fecal coliform (e-coli). All findings will be reported to the State DEQ on a weekly basis. The District will also post the results of the weekly water samples in the Cooke City Weekly Newsletter published each Friday.

Until this is completed we will post a notice similar to this every three months.

For more information, please contact Patti Smith, PO Box 798 Livingston, MT 59047 or 406-539-7149.

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 Cooke City. Montana PWS ID#: MT0000187.

Date distributed: August 14, 2009.