

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Before You Drink the Water:

Health Division Warns of Continued Health Concerns Following Boil Water Advisory

Oct. 26, 2017, Pontiac, Mich. – While still under a boil water advisory, residents, businesses, schools, and other facilities need to follow important steps once the boil water advisory ends. They also need to be aware of affected appliances and devices which include but are not limited to medical and water filtration devices, hot water tanks, ice machines, coffee and fountain pop machines.

“Communities which have had water restored are still under a boil water advisory,” said Leigh-Anne Stafford, health officer for Oakland County. “Even after the boil water advisory has been lifted, it does not mean you can drink or use the water right away. Some residents, businesses, restaurants, and healthcare, school and childcare facilities need to be aware of devices, appliances, and other items that have been impacted.”

Residents should also be aware that they cannot wash fruit, vegetables, and food preparation surfaces, as well as use the ice or water from refrigerators until steps are followed to flush internal water systems and devices. To download a checklist of what to do after the boil water advisory ends, go to www.oakgov.com/health.

Once water has been restored to all affected customers, the testing period to determine the water is safe to consume is approximately two days.

“In order for the boil water advisory to be lifted, the water system must be tested for bacteria at least twice, 24 hours apart,” said Stafford. “It is possible not all communities will have their advisories lifted at the same time because they may have different sampling schedules.”

The Oakland County Health Division is continuing to post updated health information at www.oakgov.com/health and on Public Health Oakland’s Facebook and Twitter @PublicHealthOC. For information regarding water testing and current advisories, your local municipality will have the most recent updates.

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES ONLY: Please contact Leigh-Anne Stafford, manager/health officer for Oakland County Health Division, at 248-858-1410.

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