

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Village of Newport - NY2102311

Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system is in violation of a New York State drinking water standard. Although this situation does not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. On February 20, 2007, the New York State Department of Health - Herkimer District Office determined that the water being supplied from both the Skunk Hill and Furman Springs, which are the sources of our drinking water, were under the direct influence of surface water and that we did not provide adequate treatment to assure that potentially harmful organisms were removed or inactivated. The Department of Health required that we comply with the requirement to provide adequate treatment or replace the sources within 18 months (by August 18, 2008). Unfortunately, we were unable to comply with the August 18, 2008 deadline and we are in violation of the New York State Sanitary Code, Subpart 5-1.30(b). Subpart 5-1.78 of the State Sanitary Code requires the water system owner/operator to notify all customers of this violation and future actions.

What does this mean?

This is not a situation requiring that you take immediate action. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. 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. These symptoms, however, 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.

What is being done?

The project was presented to the Loan Committee, it was approved and EFC and DOH were able to make additional grant money available to the village. The Village will be receiving \$1,800,000.00 in total grant and \$600,000.00 in financing. With the additional money available, the DOH is strongly urging the village to implement some of the previous, said to be, add-ons to the project. They believe it is in the best interest of the residents to complete these add-ons to strengthen the project. We will be working with the DOT and the engineer on the project to begin designing the additional pipeline that the DOH would like to be included in the final project. When the design is completed it will be submitted to the DOH for approval. Upon final approval from the DOH, the project will go out to bid and a new timeline of completion will be projected. Until compliance is achieved, you will continue to receive a notice similar to this every three months.

What should I do?

- If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. 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.
- You do not need to boil your water or provide any additional treatment. However, if you are considering purchasing a home drinking water filter, please be aware that not all filters provide equal or adequate protection. If you have questions regarding home filters you can call the NYS Department of Health at 1 (800) 458-1158. Please share this information with all 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. For more information, please contact the village office at (315) 845-8543, or the New York State Department of Health - Herkimer District Office, (315) 866-6879.