

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Colton Water District Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system recently violated a 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.**

Contact Time - In order to ensure proper disinfection, water in the treatment plant must be in contact with chlorine or a similar disinfectant for a minimum amount of time. On 4/12/2024, this did not occur.

Although chlorine quickly kills most bacteria, it is less effective against organisms such as viruses and parasites. For this reason, water needs to mix with chlorine for a longer time period to kill such organisms. The amount of time necessary, or the contact time, depends on the amount of disinfectant in the water and the temperature of the water.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, 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 healthcare 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.

What does this mean?

This situation does not require that you take immediate action. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

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, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What happened? What is being done?

This situation was caused by heavy rains introducing an increased level of organic material into the raw water, resulting in an increased chlorine demand. There was 50 minutes of contact time with a chlorine residual of 0.89 mg/L, which was 99% of the log inactivation required" and remove "The CT level was achieved and met the 44.9% For more information, please contact Betty Hodges at 503-824-2500 or PO Box 171 Colton OR 97017.

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 Colton Water District ID#: OR41 00202. Date distributed: 07/09/2024