

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Town of Aguilar Failed to Provide Adequate Treatment

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. As our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The state drinking water program required us to filter the water in addition to disinfecting by September 1, 2017. We are required to install this filtration because our source water has been determined to be under the direct influence of surface water. Alternatively, we can choose to use another water source that does not contain surface water. We have not yet met this requirement.

We do not know of any cases of microbial contamination. However, until improvements are made, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply. Filtration with disinfection is the best method for removing these organisms.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water, use bottled water, or take other actions. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.** 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.
- 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 are not only 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 consult you doctor.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What is being done?

- This situation is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.
- The Town has applied for loans for the capital costs associated with constructing adequate surface water treatment. Once the loans have been approved and executed, the Town must contract to complete the construction of an upgraded treatment building that includes filtration and chlorine disinfection. This project may take over one year to complete. During the interim, we are required to maintain a higher level of chlorine in the drinking water system to inactivate (kill) microbial pathogens that may be present in the source water prior to treatment. We anticipate resolving the problem by **December 31, 2018**.

For more information, please contact Tyra Avila at 719-941-4360 or PO Box 538 Aguilar, CO 81020.

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: Town of Aguilar - CO0136100 Date distributed: **September 25, 2017**