

DRINKING WATER WARNING FROM CLEVELAND WATER

Disease-causing organisms may have entered the Cleveland Water public water supply

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING TAP WATER OR USE BOTTLED WATER

Due to a main break near our Engle Road pump station, we depressurized a significant portion of the area in and around Strongsville and a portion of Middleburg Heights. As a result, there is a possibility organisms that cause illness in people may have entered the water supply. Customers in the affected area include those south of Fowles Road, west of I-71 and north of Boston Road and bounded on the west by our service area boundary, which is the Cuyahoga-Lorain county line. Customers in this area should consult the map, because some north and south of Drake Road are not included.

Customers in the affected should take the following precautions:

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT FLUSHING AND BOILING IT FIRST.** Flush all taps used for drinking and cooking for at least 3 minutes. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for at least one minute, and let it cool before using, **or use bottled water.** Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, are symptoms that can be caused by a waterborne disease. If you experience one or more of these symptoms and they persist, contact your doctor. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly people may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Additional Water Quality Advisory

This break and repair may also cause additional disruptions in water quality including discolored water and/or potentially a temporary increase in lead levels in the drinking water. As a standard practice, the USEPA recommends the following actions to reduce possible lead exposure in drinking water:

- **If water has not been used for several hours, run the tap until there is a noticeable temperature drop. Then, run water for 30 seconds to 3 minutes before using it for drinking and cooking. This helps flush water that may have contained lead that may have leached from plumbing.**
- **Use cold water for cooking, drinking, and preparing baby formula. Boiling the water will not reduce lead.**
- **Clean your faucet aerator regularly.**

What is being done?

We are investigating and taking the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible. For more information, please contact Cleveland Water Quality Line at 216-664-2639 or 216-664-2882 or website_inquires@clevelandwater.com.

For additional information, general guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes or lead exposure are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit Drinktap.org and www.epa.gov/safewater.