

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Starke Bacteriological Monitoring Public Notice

What happened?

Our water system did not meet the requirements of a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for total coliform bacteria in our drinking water system. We took 10 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during the month of November. A total number of 10 samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. Systems like ours that test positive in more than 1 sample per period did not meet drinking water standards for the compliance period.

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 health care 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 is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present.

What was done? The City of Starke Water department will be Super Chlorinating the drinking water distribution system for 7 to 10 days. While doing the super chlorinating we will also be flushing fire Hydrants throughout the whole system. Customers may experience strong chlorine odors and taste during this period. After this is achieved we will take more BACTI samples throughout the system for testing.

For more information, please contact Starke City Hall. 904-368-1331

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 our water system: **City of Starke**
Potable Water System ID: 2040211.

Date distributed: _____.