

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Bay Laurel Center Community Development District

Water Treatment Plant 3 Well 1 Tested Positive for Fecal Contamination

Our water system detected fecal indicators (*E. coli*) in one of our seven wells. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. We learned that two of our routine samples collected on March 21st and 22nd tested positive for a fecal indicator (*E. coli*). As required by the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA's) Ground Water Rule We are now conducting additional sampling of the well to determine the extent of the problem and are conducting a thorough investigation to determine the source of the contamination.

What Does This Mean? What Should I Do?

Inadequately treated or inadequately protected water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms can cause symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches. Fecal indicators are microbes whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term health effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems. These symptoms 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. **Please keep in mind the samples that tested positive for *E. coli* are the raw water samples prior to treatment. The treatment process uses chlorine to inactivate disease causing organisms and create a safe drinking water. This treatment process was performed and the chlorine residual was maintained well above the minimum standards of the Environmental Protection Agency and Florida Department of Environmental Protection. 10 Samples were taken throughout the Water distribution system and all samples tested satisfactorily without any presence of fecal indicator (*E. coli*).**

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. We are also providing regular updates on this situation on Channel 22.

What is Being Done?

We are conducting a thorough investigation to determine the source of the contamination and will be working with the State Department of Environmental Protection to implement corrective actions to ensure that our water supplies are protected against contamination. We will keep you informed of the steps we are taking to protect your drinking water and will provide information on any steps you should be taking, until this problem is corrected.

For more information, please contact Customer Service Bay Laurel Center Community Development District Water System, at (352) 236-6869.

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 distribution copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Bay Laurel Center Community Development District Water System.
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