



Press Release

February 27, 2017

CITY OF WHITEFISH BOIL WATER ADVISORY

The City of Whitefish experienced a catastrophic water main break during the early morning hours of Monday February 27, 2017. The break has been isolated and water pressure is increasing throughout the distribution system. The Water Department asks that customers continue to conserve water to allow the system to pressurize.

Since this water main break has caused a significant pressure drop, the City has issued the enclosed Boil Water Advisory. This advisory will remain in place as a precaution until we can confirm the water is safe to consume. In particular, people with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk.

Bacteriological samples of the water are being collected and City personnel are closely monitoring the situation and additional information will be provided as it becomes available. Questions may be directed to the Public Works Department at 406-863-2460.

-End-

Boil Water Advisory

for

City of Whitefish

February 27, 2017

Our water system recently experienced a water main break that caused our system pressure to drop and some areas of town to be without water. This is an emergency and as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

This **Boil Water Advisory** is precautionary. The City of Whitefish public water supply has experienced a water main break. Water system personnel worked diligently to get the break isolated and water pressure is being restored.

What should I do?

- **Boil your water.**
- *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?

- As a precaution boil the water before consuming until advised otherwise.
- Fecal coliform and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
- The symptoms above 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. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. *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.*

What is being done?

- Bacteriological samples of the water have been collected.
- City personnel are closely monitoring the situation and will update users.
- For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at (406) 863-2460.
- General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice.*

This notice is being sent to you by the **City of Whitefish - State Water System ID#: MT0000357**
Date and Method Distributed: Press Release - 2/27/2017