**DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

**[Water System] Purchases Water from [Water System with EC+ Source], and Their [Source] Tested Positive for E. Coli**

**[OPTION 1: IF CUSTOMERS CAN BOIL THE WATER]**

**BOIL WATER PRIOR TO DRINKING**

**OR**

**[OPTION 2: IF CUSTOMERS ARE NOT ABLE TO BOIL WATER]**

**DO NOT DRINK THE WATER**

**OPTION: Bottled water is available at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

We purchase water from [Water System with EC+ Source]; they recently detected E. Coli in their [EC+ source]. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. On [Date], [Water System with EC+ Source] collected [# of samples collected for this source] sample(s) from [source] and [# of samples E.coli positive] tested positive for E. Coli. **OPTION:** On [Date], [Water System with EC+ Source] collected five additional samples from [source] and [# of samples E. Coli positive] tested positive for E. Coli, which confirms the contamination of their source.

**IF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS SPOKEN BY A POPULATION OF 10% OR MORE WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY BASED ON US CENSUS DATA (REFER TO** [How to Determine if your Water System Requires a Secondary Language Statement](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pdf/secondary-language-directions.pdf) on our website at (<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pdf/secondary-language-directions.pdf>)) **REPEAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN ENGLISH AND THE APPLICABLE LANGUAGE(S):** “Contact [Name of Contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address] [**OPTIONAL:** or [email address]] for questions or to obtain a translated copy of this public notice.”

**What does this mean?**

 \**E. Coli 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 bacteria can make you sick and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems. Bacterial contamination can occur when increased run-off enters the drinking water source (for example, following heavy rains).

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 from their health care providers about drinking this water.

**What should I do?**

**[OPTION 1: IF CUSTOMERS CAN BOIL THE WATER]**

* **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.**
* Bring all water to a rolling boil, let it boil for 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.

**OR**

**[OPTION 2: IF CUSTOMERS ARE NOT ABLE TO BOIL WATER]**

* **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER.**
* Since you do not have the capability to boil water, **bottled water** should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, food preparation and provided to pets until further notice.

**What is being done?**

**Describe corrective action the system will be taking.**

**Options:**

* We discontinued purchasing water from [Water System with EC+ Source] until E. coli is no longer detected in their source.
* We are pursuing treatment options for disinfection of the water from [Water System with EC+ Source].
* We have installed temporary disinfection while we pursue long term treatment or other options.
* We are providing water from an alternative source until the problem is resolved.
* We are working with [Water System with EC+ source] to resolve the source of contamination.
* We have flushed our system, following the closure of the interconnection, and we are collecting samples to ensure there are no E. coli present within our distribution system.

We will inform you when tests show no E. Coli is present and you no longer need to boil your water and/or use bottled water. [System name with EC+ Source] anticipates resolving the problem within [estimated time frame].

**OPTION if received approval from DEP to limit distribution:** Only a portion of our service area, specifically [area] is affected by this public notice. A map illustrating the affected area is [attached/enclosed/below].

For more information, please contact [Name of Contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address] **OPTIONAL**: or via email at [email address]. 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 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 [System Name]; PWSID#: [PWSID].

Date distributed: [date]