

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Boone Water Works Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Normal turbidity levels at our treatment plant are .03 turbidity units. A water sample taken 6/21/17 showed levels of 2.19 turbidity units. This was above the standard of 1 units. Because of this high level of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other actions.** We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking 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?

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. 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.

What happened? What was done?

A problem occurred with a treatment system at the water treatment plant. One of the clarifiers being brought on-line short circuited and caused a turbid effluent. Reduced flows and extra sludge removal allowed the clarifier to return to compliance within one hour.

For more information, please contact Wayne Schwartz at 515-432-4211 or 923 8th St. Boone, IA 50036.

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