

DRINKING WATER WARNING

November 14, 2019

The Sierra Water System, ID#04643L, located in Pierce County may be contaminated because of a watermain break and loss of pressure throughout the water system.

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a rolling boil for one minute, and let it cool before using. Boiled or purchased 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.

When a loss of pressure occurs, it is possible that contamination from the environment or from human or animal waste may be drawn into the water system. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term 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 only caused 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 provider.

What happened?

Staff discovered a watermain break near the Reservoir and Pump Station in the Sierra System at 2:00 a.m. on Thursday November 14, 2019.

The following is being done to correct the problem:

Staff is in the process of excavating and repairing the broken watermain. Once the watermain is repaired, the system will be flushed and a purity sample will be taken and delivered to a water quality lab for testing. The test takes 24 hours from the time it is delivered to the lab. The Boil Water Notice will remain in effect until the District is notified the sample is good.

Please check the District website at WWW.VALLEYWATERDISTRICT.COM for the most current updates and notices.

We have consulted with the Washington State Department of Health about this incident. We will notify you when you no longer need to boil the water. **We anticipate resolving the problem by No Later than 4:30 p.m. on Saturday November 16, 2019.**

For more information, please contact **VALLEY WATER DISTRICT** at **(253) 841-9698** or at **14515 Pioneer Way East, Puyallup, WA 98372**

Please share this notice 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.

Thank you for your patience while we work to restore your water service.

Sean Vance
General Manager
Valley Water District