

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

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For more information call: GMU - 641-743-2741

## **DRINKING WATER WARNING**

Greenfield Municipal Utilities has high turbidity levels  
**BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING**

Lab results from water samples collected yesterday by Greenfield Municipal Utilities shows results less than the limit of 0.2ug/L for microcystin in the drinking water. Microcystins were suspected to be at a higher level due to blue-green algae in the source water upon discovery in Lake Greenfield yesterday morning, but results were not immediately available until today. Therefore, GMU customers that are currently under the bottled water advisory are now being lowered to a boil water advisory until further notice.

Greenfield Municipal Utilities routinely monitors the water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. A water sample taken 7-17-18 showed turbidity levels of 2.5 turbidity units. This is above the standard of 1.0 turbidity units. Because of these high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

### **What should I do?**

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a 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, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and food preparation until further notice.
- *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.* 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.
- 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.

### **What happened? What is being done?**

Greenfield Municipal Utilities has taken the proper corrective measurements in order to reduce the amount of turbidity levels in the finish water that is leaving the treatment plant and are currently back in compliance with the standard for turbidity. Our distribution system covers a large area and will take several days to turn over and flush the water containing the high turbidity levels. This water is safe to use for all activities other than human consumption for drinking, making ice, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and food preparation. This water is considered safe for animal and livestock consumption. If abnormal behavior or poor health welfare is observed please contact a veterinarian for further assistance. GMU will inform you when turbidity returns to appropriate levels and when you no longer need to boil your water.

For more information, please contact our office at 1(641)743-2741. 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 Greenfield Municipal Utilities (GMU)

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