



PRESS RELEASE
October 6, 2022

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Raw Water Sample Tests Positive for E. coli Bacteria in Northeast

Well not in use; will be disinfected and resampled before future service

SAN ANTONIO – During standard water quality sampling, a raw, untreated water sample from an unused well located on New World Drive indicated the presence of E. coli bacteria. The well came to SAWS as a part of the former BexarMet system. No untreated water from this source entered the system.

The well was not in use. It was turned on only momentarily for testing, then shut down immediately. Based on test results, the well will be thoroughly disinfected and resampled before any future service.

The well is located in northeast San Antonio, near O'Connor Road. (See attached map.)

Raw, or untreated water, is water from a well before disinfection, and before entering the system providing water to customers. All raw or untreated water is disinfected before entering the distribution system as finished water for customers.

Please note this is NOT a Boil Water notice. Customers do not need to take additional measures prior to consumption. Under the Groundwater Rule established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, SAWS is required to provide public notice if a water well tests positive for E. coli or fecal bacteria.

See attached TCEQ Notice for more details.

San Antonio Water System provides water and wastewater services to more than 2 million customers in the San Antonio region and continues to set the standard for service and water conservation within our industry. SAWS is the national leader in water innovation with the largest direct recycled water system in the country, a state-of-the-art inland desalination plant, and the largest groundwater-based Aquifer Storage & Recovery facility in the nation. For more information, visit www.saws.org.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Northeast System Well G0150084C _____ had a water well(s) that tested positive for *E. coli*.

E. coli bacteria were found in the water supply on (Date) 10/06/2022. These bacteria can make you sick, and are a particular concern for infants, young children and people with weakened immune systems.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Fecal indicators 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.

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.

Corrective action: (List what is currently being done to remedy the problem)

The well is offline, it will be disinfected, and re sampled before any future use.

We anticipate resolving the problem within (estimated time frame) October 10, 2022. For more information, please contact (name of PWS contact) Monty McGuffin at (phone number) (210) 228-7396 or (mailing address of contact) at 2800 US Hwy 281 North San Antonio, TX 78023.

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.

Date distributed: 10/06/2022

Instructions for preparing the required Public Notice:

Copy the mandatory language above and insert the underlined information in the spaces indicated. Please refer to the Certificate of Delivery or 30 TAC 290.122 for additional information on public notification.

After filling in the necessary information, fax to (512) 239-3666 or mail a copy of this completed form, AND a copy of the signed Tier I Certificate of Delivery to: TCEQ – Public Drinking Water Section, MC – 155, Attn: TCR/GWR Public Notice, P. O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

