

# Q-City News Special edition

Information you need about City services

Telephone: 250-992-2111 · Fax: 250-992-2206 · www.city.quesnel.bc.ca

## Your City's drinking water - safe, reliable, good.

The City's water system is a safe and reliable one. In addition, as many of you know, we enjoy a plentiful source of great tasting water.

Recently, however, the City had to issue a Boil Water Advisory for South Quesnel. This was the first time the City had to take this measure.

A sampling irregularity occurred and fortunately there was no danger to the public. However, this is a good time to explain the situation and provide some basic information about your drinking water.

Public safety is the City's number one priority. Your water is sampled and tested

regularly by trained professionals to ensure a safe supply of drinking water is in place.

Should you have questions about your water, please do not hesitate to contact us at City Hall at 250-992-2111 or at the utilities department at 250-992-6330.

## The Boil Water Advisory - what happened?

Water samples on public utilities are typically restricted to the utility operator and/or Northern Health Staff.

In this case, a resident who had a concern with discoloured water submitted a water sample. The sample was sent to the lab for testing, which is not normal operating procedure. It tested positive for E. coli.

On April 25, the City and Northern Health issued a Boil Water Advisory for six streets in South Quesnel; the advisory was expanded to all areas of South Quesnel on April 27.

Northern Health collected 33 water samples on April 27 and



28. The Boil Water Advisory was rescinded on April 30 following **no detection of E.Coli in any of the samples.**

After the event, Northern Health determined that **proper sampling procedure was not followed.**

Northern Health staff have been reminded that samples should not come from the public on public utilities.

Any samples on the City's

water system should be submitted by the Northern Health Environmental Health Officer or the City's utility staff.

## More information about the City's water distribution system

City water comes from six wells that can provide approximately 15,900 litres (3,500 Imperial gallons) per minute.

This water is stored in six reservoirs, with the City maintaining some 87 kilometres of water mains throughout the City.

### Water testing

Water testing is done weekly

throughout the City system for total Coliform and E. coli. Water is tested at the wellheads, reservoirs and 15 testing sites on a rotational basis, including:

- The airport
- Mills Road
- Graham Avenue
- West Fraser Road
- Pederson Road
- Carson Pit Road
- Dennis Road

- Carradice Road
- Dixon Street
- Nason Street
- North Star Road (two sites)
- Chew Road
- Marsh Drive
- Walkem Street

Results may be found in the City's Annual Report on Drinking Water, which is on the City's website or available by contacting City Hall at 250-992-2111.

