



District of Wells

Feb. 11, 2021

21 - 06

For Immediate Release

Potential water supply contamination – District of Wells

The District of Wells has become aware of potential lead contamination of its water system and is working closely with Northern Health to ensure the health and safety of the community.

Northern Health is reviewing the circumstances and has asked that the District complete further testing of the water system. The District expects the results of the further testing to be available in the coming days and will immediately be providing them to Northern Health for further direction.

The District is following all Northern Health guidelines at this time. Additional information will be made available once additional testing has been completed and direction has been received from Northern Health. In the meantime, the District is developing contingencies to allow it to promptly respond to any direction given by Northern Health.

Out of an abundance of caution, Northern Health recommends that those at highest risk of harm from exposure to lead in drinking water (pregnant women, infants and children) use alternate sources of drinking water until additional information is available. In certain situations, flushing of your waterlines has been shown to reduce the levels of lead in drinking water. Flushing involves running your cold water tap until it is cold (1-3 minutes). (Please do not run your taps non-stop all day long as that will result in a shortage of water supply)

The District is also willing to provide potable water in the interim (during further investigations) to community residents and businesses. 5-gallon jugs of bottled Water will be available to anyone in the community who wishes, on Wednesday February 17, 2021. Please contact the District office if you are wishing to receive bottled water.

Due to the need for further investigations, the District anticipates 2-3 months with commissioned professional consultants. The District is working on longer term engineered solutions at this time in efforts of mitigating any potential water quality challenges.

The District is providing this information to water system users in order to ensure transparency and to provide accurate information.

For information regarding potential lead contaminants please reference:

https://www.northernhealth.ca/sites/northern_health/files/services/environmental-health/documents/northern-health-bulletin-lead.pdf

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