



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

TELE: (419) 352-8461 FAX: (419) 352-8468
www.epa.state.oh.us

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korteski, Director

Re: Seneca County
City of Fostoria
Community Water System
PWS ID# 7400411

February 9, 2009

OH7400411 FOSTORIA CITY

43 02/10/09

Mr. Bill Rains, Safety Service Director
City of Fostoria
213 South Main Street
Fostoria, Ohio 44830-1007



Subject: Tier 1 Public Notice Requirement

The City of Fostoria water system failed to provide sufficient filtration of its drinking water when the turbidity levels of representative samples of its filtered water exceeded 1 nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU) on February 9, 2009.

Failure to meet any requirement of OAC rule 3745-81-73, Filtration of Water from Surface Water Sources, is a treatment technique violation for which public notice is required under OAC rule 3745-81-32. You are required to provide a public notice as soon as practical, but no later than 24 hours after the system learns of the violation or situation, using one or more of the forms of delivery identified in the table below (Refer to Step 1).

Actions required as a result of the above violation	
Step 1	<p>Use one or more of the following methods to reach all persons served by the public water system:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Public notice issued by appropriate broadcast media (such as radio and television) Public notice issued by continuous posting in conspicuous places throughout the area served by the water system (required to remain posted for as long as the violation exists) Public notice issued by hand delivery to persons served by the water system Public notice issued by another delivery method approved in writing
Step 2	Initiate an investigation and take the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.
Step 3	Within 10 days of completing Step 1, fill out the attached verification form and send it along with a copy of the public notification issued to the Northwest District Office of Ohio EPA.

Mr. Bill Rains
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If you have any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3048.

Sincerely,



Ralph Baker
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

/csi

Enclosures

pc:

John Devole, Mayor
Ron Fauls, Superintendent (w/ enclosures)
Seneca County Health Department
Hancock County Health Department
Wood County Health Department
{DDAGW, NWDO, File (w/ enclosures)}

DRINKING WATER WARNING

The City of Fostoria Water Treatment Plant has high turbidity levels

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

We routinely monitor our water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. A water sample taken February 9, 2009 showed turbidity levels of 2.4 turbidity units. This is above the standard of one turbidity unit. 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 at least 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 people 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 is being done?

We are investigating and taking the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.

For more information, please contact _____ at _____ or _____.
name of contact phone number mailing address

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.

PWSID#: _____ Date distributed: