

City of Barre, Vermont

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DRINKING WATER ADVISORY For the City of Barre Water System

Following a major flood event, our water system has been experiencing discoloration of drinking water in certain areas of the City's water distribution system. The discoloration may be due to a combination of factors including water main breaks that occurred during the flood event and extensive system disruption causing unusual flow patterns and system impacts.

Additional system maintenance is being performed including:

- System-wide flushing
- Draining and filling the Pierce Road tank
- Monitoring chlorination
- Additional testing and flushing at locations identified to have continued discoloration

Sampling conducted so far do not indicate a presence of coliform bacteria and the water system is maintaining an adequate chlorine residual. These factors indicate the absence of waterborne pathogens in the drinking water. The City, in conjunction with state officials, has developed an expanded sampling program to collect additional representative water quality samples to investigate user concerns.

On Friday, September 8, 2023, City staff conducted 120 tests for, among other factors, chlorine, pH, and iron, and none of the tests showed any contamination or concerns with the safety of the water. Additional samples have been sent to an independent lab and results are expected next week.

Additional samples are being collected and tested for iron, manganese, phosphate, free and total chlorine, color, turbidity, and heterotrophic plate count (HPC). Total coliform bacteria samples will be collected in those locations where free chlorine levels are below 0.2 mg/L.

The City will provide further updates as we learn the results of the sampling program and continue with system maintenance. Users with continued discoloration are encouraged to flush their taps prior to use. Additional information is available on our website.

To report continued discoloration, please contact Clint Smith at (802) 476-0251 or csmith@barrecity.org.