

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

To all users of the Mattapoissett River Valley Water District
Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoissett and Rochester
located in Mattapoissett, Massachusetts

This is an important notice - please translate it for anyone who does not understand English.

THIS IS NOT AN EMERGENCY. Mattapoissett River Valley Water District and member communities routinely monitors for the presence of drinking water contaminants to ensure the safety of the water supply. On 8/7/19, we were notified by the Town of Fairhaven that a fecal indicator (E. coli) was detected in a raw water (untreated) sample collected on 8/6/19 from the Fairhaven Tinkham Lane Well.

During normal operations, water from the Fairhaven Tinkham Lane Well is pumped from the ground and is treated and disinfected at the MRV WTP for iron and manganese. This water is delivered to you after treatment. Water samples from Fairhaven, Marion and Mattapoissett water distribution systems were also collected on 8/6/19. None of the water samples tested positive for Total Coliform or E. coli. Only the untreated sample from the Fairhaven Tinkham Well tested positive. ALL MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY TREATMENT FACILITY SAMPLES AND DISTRIBUTION SAMPLES FOR THE COMMUNITIES WERE FOUND TO BE ABSENT OF BOTH COLIFORM AND E-COLI.

This is not an emergency; you DO NOT need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO? WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

This is not an emergency; you do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

E. coli is a fecal indicator and it was detected in the raw water at the Fairhaven Tinkham Lane Well before treatment. Even though the well with the fecal indicator is treated and the treated water did not contain any fecal indicators, the well is no longer in use at this time. The USEPA requires us to provide you with this Notice and the following information on fecal indicators. "Fecal indicators are microbes whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause 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 microbes that can produce these symptoms were **not** detected in the water after it was treated. Therefore, these health risks are not present. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. 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.

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

We continue to evaluate the situation including the following actions:

The Fairhaven Tinkham Lane Well was removed from service as a precautionary measure and will not be placed back in service until approved by MassDEP.

Investigating the source of the raw water contamination and remove it.

A full evaluation of the well and well house will take place to determine if there are any deficiencies and that they are corrected.

We are in contact with MassDEP who is evaluating the actions we are taking to ensure safe water is being delivered to you. If a risk of contamination exists, you will receive additional notification.

This is NOT an emergency and you do not need to take corrective action.

FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact: Henri Renauld Superintendent Mattapoissett Water Dept. 508-758-4161 Website <https://www.mattapoissett.net> PWSID 4173001 Date distributed 8/8/20