

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Showed Coliform Bacteria were in Skaneateles Village Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. As our customer, you have a right to know what happened.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. Each month three routine samples are collected to test for the presence of Coliform bacteria. Two of the three samples collected on October 10, 2014 showed the presence of Total Coliform bacteria. The two positive samples were taken at separate locations. The standard is that no more than one of the samples may be positive in any month.

What should I do?

We are not advising that you boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, you should consult your doctor.

People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people may want to seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria, which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*

Usually, Coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect Coliform bacteria in any sample, we also test to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any *E. coli*, and further coliform testing shows that this problem has been resolved.**

What was done?

Five repeat samples were collected following the positive sample on October 15, 2014. Four of the five repeat samples collected were negative for the presence of Total Coliform bacteria. Four additional repeat samples were collected on October 17, 2014. All four repeats were negative for the presence of Total Coliform bacteria. Chlorine residuals are adequate and additional samples will be taken to ensure the issue has been resolved.

For more information, please contact Psenicnik Zlatko at 685-5628 or the Onondaga County Health Department at 435-6600.

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.