

**NEWS RELEASE**

**August 13, 2019.**

**Increased turbidity triggers BOIL WATER NOTICE**

The Village of Radium Hot Springs has issued a **BOIL WATER NOTICE** for users on the Radium Hot Springs drinking water supply system. A mechanical issue at the drinking water treatment plant is resulting in **POOR** water quality due to increased turbidity (cloudiness).

The Village of Radium Hot Springs and Interior Health recommend that all users drink boiled water or a safe alternative until further notice. Water intended for drinking, washing fruits and vegetables, making beverages or ice, or brushing teeth should be boiled for one minute. Boiled water should then be refrigerated in a clean, covered container. Customers could also choose to use bottled or distilled water, or water that has been filtered through a well-maintained treatment device.

Health risks increase as turbidity rises, particularly for at-risk populations such as newborns, the elderly, and people with weakened immune systems. Contaminants such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites can attach themselves to the suspended particles in turbid water. These particles can then interfere with disinfection, limiting chlorine's ability to remove or inactivate the contaminants. Current turbidity levels exceed the 1 NTU standard recommended in the *Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality*.

Owners of all public facilities must post Boil Water Notices at all sinks or drinking water fountains accessible to the public (alternatively, public fountains and taps may be turned off). As opportunities arise, they must also advise their clientele verbally of the Boil Water Notice.

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is taking additional measures to reduce risk. Interior Health has been fully involved, and the public will be notified when conditions change or water quality has improved.

We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause, and appreciate your cooperation and patience during this time.

News updates and health information will be posted at the Village website:

[www.radiumhotsprings.ca](http://www.radiumhotsprings.ca)

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