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## Water Quality Advisory Oyama Creek Source

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The District of Lake Country in conjunction with Interior Health keeps the Oyama Creek Source on a permanent **Water Quality Advisory** because this source is subject to fluctuation in turbidity that can exceed guidelines regularly, and chlorine disinfection is the only method of treatment on this source.

### What is Turbidity?

Turbidity is a measure of how clear or cloudy the water is and “**NTU**” is the unit it is measured in. Particles can interfere with the disinfection process and may reduce chlorines effectiveness. Turbidity in the good and fair range are invisible to the human eye.

The water quality from the Oyama Creek source is typically rated as **FAIR**.



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.

### Who should take these precautions?

- Children
- The elderly
- People with weakened immune systems

### What should these customers do?

Until further notice, water intended for the following uses should be boiled for one minute and then refrigerated in a clean, covered container:

- Drinking
- Washing fruits and vegetables
- Making beverages or ice
- Brushing teeth

For more information, contact the District of Lake Country at 250-766-6677 or [www.lakecountry.bc.ca](http://www.lakecountry.bc.ca) or Interior Health at 250-549-5714 or [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca).