

May 9, 2023

Water Quality Advisory Coral Beach Water System

In cooperation with the Interior Health Authority, the District of Lake Country has issued a **Water Quality Advisory** for customers on the **Coral Beach Water System**. See map of affected area attached.

The north-west end of Okanagan Lake is experiencing a heavy freshet that is carrying a large amount of debris into the lake. As a result, there is an increase in turbidity (cloudiness). The rise in turbidity has been observed at the Coral Beach water intake, and a precautionary **Water Quality Advisory** is being issued.

“Interior Health recommends that children, the elderly, people with weakened immune systems and anyone seeking additional protection drink boiled water or a safe alternative until further notice. For these at-risk populations, water intended for drinking, washing fruits or vegetables, making juice or ice, or brushing teeth should be boiled for one minute.”

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.



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.

For more information please visit the District website at www.lakecountry.bc.ca/utilities or contact the District at 250-766-6677. You can also contact the Interior Health Authority at 250-549-5714 or www.interiorhealth.ca.

Coral Beach Water System

