

RENSSELAER COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

Steven F. McLaughlin
County Executive



Mary Fran Wachunas
Public Health Director

BOIL WATER ORDER

Disinfection inadequate for BERLIN WATER DISTRICT #2 water

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

CUSTOMERS OF THE WATER SYSTEM ARE HEREBY ORDERED BY THE RENSSELAER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO BOIL ALL WATER FOR DRINKING AND CULINARY PURPOSES.

12/06/2023
DATE ISSUED

Richard Elder
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Routine monitoring on 12/06/2023, showed inadequate chlorine levels in the drinking water. Disinfection system is not working. Chlorine is a disinfectant that is used to destroy harmful microbes that could be in the drinking water.

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water certified for sale by the New York State Department of Health. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation **until further notice**. Boiling kills most bacteria and other organisms in the water.

Harmful microbes in drinking water can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. Inadequate disinfection may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems. The symptoms above are not just caused by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

Disinfection system will be repaired in a timely manner. You will be informed when tests show that chlorine levels have returned to normal, no harmful bacteria are present, and you no longer need to boil your water. It is anticipated that the problem will be resolved within **4 days**.

For more information, please contact Paul Baker of the Berlin #2 water system at 518-333-3432 or the Rensselaer County Health Dept. at 518-270-2711.

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.