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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor
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Robert McCray
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Joseph A. Woods

Village Clerk
Sheila McGann

Village Manager
Thomas Mick

Village Hall
350 Victory Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 748-1112

**DownTown
Management Office**
226 Forest Blvd.
(708) 503-8153

Fire Department
156 Indianwood Blvd.
(708) 748-5605

Freedom Hall
410 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 747-0580

Police Department
200 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 748-4700

**Recreation and
Parks Department**
350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-2005

Dear Resident,

Test Showed Coliform Bacteria & E.coli in Village of Park Forest's Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 30 samples to test for the presence of total coliform bacteria and E.coli during July 2019. ONE sample showed the presence of total coliform bacteria and E.coli. Upon repeat sampling the same sample site showed the presence of total coliform but not E.coli.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified within 24 hours. Total 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 do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.**

What was/is being done?

The Village of Park Forest issued a boil order and took two rounds of 30 samples 24 hour apart to confirm the water supply was safe. Upon further investigation it was found that the sample was collected from a contaminated sample tap/spigot. The Water Treatment Plant's Operators have undergone additional training on the proper techniques for collecting routine monthly samples. We also checked, cleaned and sterilized all sample taps that are located throughout the Village. All further testing shows this problem has been resolved.

For more information, please contact the Village of Park Forest Department of Public Works at 708-748-1112 or by mail to Village of Park Forest, Department of Public Works, 350 Victory Drive, Park Forest, IL 60466.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by Village of Park Forest Water Treatment Plant. State Water System ID#: IL031-4740. Date distributed August 12, 2019