

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

---

# **State Coliform Standard Not Met for the City of Alturas– August 2016**

---

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. In August 2016, the one routine water sample showed the presence of coliform bacteria. In accordance with State regulations, three follow-up samples were taken and two of the three tested positive for total coliform bacteria in the water. The standard is that no more than one sample per month may show the presence of total coliform bacteria and we had three total positive samples for the month.

### **What should you do?**

**You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. 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, coliform are a sign that there could be a problem with our treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing and check for the presence of other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*. **We did NOT find any fecal coliform or *E. coli* bacteria in any of our water samples.**

People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. 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.

If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

### **What Happened? What Was Done?**

*We could not determine the source of the coliform bacteria so we flushed the water lines in the surrounding area. We then took additional coliform samples from the original sites and they indicate that the water is free of total coliform at this time. We will take five routine samples next month and will notify you again if the coliform standards are exceeded.*

Persons wishing more information should contact: City of Alturas Public Works Dept.  
(name) Director, Joe Picotte  
200 W. North Street Alturas, CA  
(address)  
(530) 233-2512  
(phone number)

*Please share this information with 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.*