

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Tests Showed Coliform Bacteria in the Water at PITTSFIELD WATER DEPT.
ME0091280 during the period 12/1/2006 to 12/31/2006.

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

What should you do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. 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.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria that 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, and they were not.

What happened? What was done?

The problem with the water was: **TOTAL COLIFORM**

To correct the problem Pittsfield Water Department did: **increase the amount of chlorine added to the system, and flushed the water mains.**

Additional samples taken show no bacteria. The problem was resolved by 12/23/2006. For more information, please contact:

Scott Noble at 487-5203

Or

16 Park St., Pittsfield, Maine 04967.

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.