

UNSAFE WATER ALERT- UPDATE

San Ardo WD Has Been Impacted by Floods - Testing Update

DO NOT DRINK YOUR WATER

Failure to follow this advisory could result in illness.

The well for the San Ardo WD was flooded during the recent storms and flood water may have entered into the well casing. The flood water may be contaminated with chemicals that would not be made safe by boiling or disinfection. Additionally, E. coli had been detected in the water system. The State Water Resources Control Board, the Monterey County and San Ardo WD are advising residents of San Ardo to NOT USE THE TAP WATER FOR DRINKING AND COOKING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Update as of 1/19/2023

E. coli had been detected in the water system on 1/12/2023. Since then, the San Ardo WD has flushed the water system and has been collecting samples to help determine when the water will be safe again. **Follow up samples** taken from the distribution system on 1/13/2023 and 1/15/2023 **were absent of both total coliform bacteria and E.coli**. A sample collected from the well on 1/16/2023 was also absent of total coliform bacteria and E.coli. Samples taken from the distribution system on 1/13/2023 were nondetect for nitrate and surfactants (soaps). Samples have been taken from the well and distribution system for volatile organic compounds (VOC)(gas related products) and salts and results are pending. The VOC sample result from the distribution system is expected on 1/20/2023 and the VOC sample result from the well is expected early next week. Additional samples will be collected on 1/19/2023 for coliform bacteria and VOCs and results should be available next week. **Although the most recent coliform bacteria samples are absent, it is still possible that other contaminants such as volatile organic chemicals entered the system. CONTINUE TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AND DO NOT DRINK (SEE BELOW) THE TAP WATER UNTIL ALL TESTING IS COMPLETE AND INDICATES THE WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK AGAIN.**

What should I do?

- **DO NOT DRINK YOUR TAP WATER---USE ONLY BOTTLED WATER.** Bottled water should be used for all drinking (including baby formula and juice), brushing teeth, washing dishes, making ice and food preparation **until further notice**.
- **DO NOT TRY AND TREAT THE WATER YOURSELF.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, adding chlorine or other disinfectants, or letting water stand will not make the water safe.
- E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.
- 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791

Potable water is available at the following location: library - Please bring a clean water container

We will inform you when tests show that the water is safe again. We expect to resolve the problem within one more week.

Continued on next page

San Ardo WD Flood impact notification, continued from previous page, 1/19/2023

For more information call:

Water Utility contact: Suzzi Clark: (831)-627-2349

State Water Resources Control Board at: Monterey District Office: (831)655-6939

Local County Health Department: Monterey County Health Department: (831)755-4505

This notice is being sent to you by San Ardo WD. California Public Water System ID # 270-0728.

Date Distributed: 1/19/2023

Please share this information with all other people who receive 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.