

# BOIL WATER ORDER

Pine Harbor, Lake Forest Community and 17 Duplex Apartments served by the Plattsburgh City Water District's water is contaminated with *E. coli*

## BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

**CUSTOMERS OF THE Plattsburgh City Water District in the area stated above ARE HEREBY ORDERED BY THE CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO BOIL ALL WATER FOR DRINKING AND CULINARY PURPOSES.**

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**John Kanoza, P.E. DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

Two routine samples collected on 10/20/2011 have positive total coliform results and one of these samples also showed an *E.coli* positive result. These bacteria can make you sick, and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems. The New York State Department of Health views any confirmed *E. coli* positive sample as a public health hazard and a violation of drinking water standards.

**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.

*E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They 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. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

### **What happened? What is being done?**

The waterlines in the affected area will be flushed and disinfected. You will be informed when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. It is anticipated that the problem will be resolved within a few days. For more information, please contact Bill Todd of the Plattsburgh City Water District at 518-563-1188 or the Clinton County Health Dept. at 565-4870.

*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.*