

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Jim Reardon, Mayor
845-876-7015

Attachment to this release contains the order from the Dutchess County Health Department.

August 31, 2011
5:15 pm

Mayor Jim Reardon announced this afternoon that in consultation with the Dutchess County Department of Health, due to the effects of Hurricane Irene on the quality of the water coming from the Hudson River and the fact that there are leaks within the system, the Department of Health has instituted a boil water order for users of the Village of Rhinebeck water system. Reardon states "anyone using water supplied from the Village water system should boil water for consumption for a minimum of two minutes before using. This order will be in effect until further notice and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We are taking the necessary steps to repair the system and hopefully mother nature will help us by cleansing the Hudson River very soon. We will lift the restriction as soon as sampling proves we are able to do so and the County Health Department gives us the necessary approvals. Also we are still asking users to help us by conserving water".

Notice Notice Notice

RHINEBECK VILLAGE WATER

Public Water Supply

Fed ID: NY1302776

Due to the recent storm event the potential for bacteriological contamination is present. Subpart 5-1 of the NYS Sanitary Code requires that this notice be posted to inform all water consumers of the condition of the water supply and the potential for a public health emergency.

Potential contamination include coliform bacteria. Here is some information on coliform: The New York State Department of Health sets drinking water standards and has determined that the presence of total coliform (coliform bacteria) is a possible health concern. Total coliform are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria in drinking water, however, generally is a result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes which distribute the water, and indicates that the water may be contaminated with organisms that can cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea and possibly jaundice and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water, but also may be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. The New York State Department of Health has set an enforceable drinking water standard for total coliform to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Under this standard, a system may have no more than one sample containing these bacteria. Drinking water which meets this standard is usually not associated with a health risk from disease-causing bacteria.

The following steps are being taken to correct the problem:

The treatment process is being optimized to deal with high turbidity in the source water. Leaks in the distribution system are being located and repaired.

Preventative Measures you should take:

All tap water for human consumption should be boiled for at least two minutes, or add two drops of liquid bleach disinfectant such as "Clorox" or four drops of tincture of iodine to one gallon of water, and let stand for 30 minutes before drinking. Another alternative is to drink bottled water. Individuals who have symptoms described in the above Boil Water Notice may wish to seek medical attention. Please take the above steps to protect your health until further notice.

For further information please contact:

Owner: Rhinebeck Village, 845-876-7015

Dutchess County Department of Health: 845-486-3404