



NEWS RELEASE-5

DATE

1:35P.M. 13 APRIL 2010

RE FINAL UPDATE TO HEALTH ADVISORY
FROM CITY OF EPHRATA
CONTACT CITY HALL (509) 754-4601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Advisory Cancelled Ephrata Water System Passes Tests

EPHRATA, WA. The Washington State Department of Health and the City of Ephrata have cancelled the boil water notice.

As of Tuesday afternoon, 13 April 2010, the City's water system has passed all 16 tests perfectly. The City has exceeded State standards for notification, disinfection, and final evaluation for safe and clean drinking water.

Residents may now use the City's water as normal.

The City of Ephrata expresses its sincere appreciation to the State Department of Health, Grant County Emergency Management, Grant County Health Department, and the Gray & Osborne engineers for their tremendous professional aid during this incident.

Waterline and street project construction does not appear to be a cause of this incident. However, tests showed Well #6 as a likely source of the contamination. Well #6 was disconnected immediately last Friday morning. The City's efforts in diagnosing this matter will continue. A report will be produced and made public once the examination is complete.

Last week, *E.coli* bacteria were found in one of eighteen water samples. Continued testing showed no trace of *E.Coli*, but other coliform bacteria were found in the water system. The City and the State acted together, as a precautionary measure, to issue a Health Advisory at 12:15p.m. Friday 09 April 2010.

The Advisory affected roughly 7,100 people, including more than 3,200 homes and businesses in our community. The Advisory was in effect for the entire community of Ephrata.

Residents who have further questions should call the City at 754-4601 during regular business hours.

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Additional Information

City website: <http://www.ephrata.org/309.html>

Department of Health: <http://www.doh.wa.gov>

City Hall Phone: (509) 754-4601 (Mon-Fri 7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.)