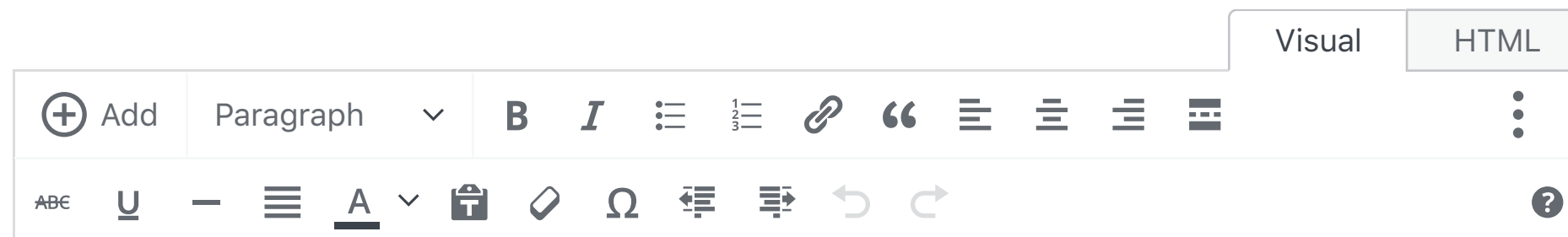




Watkins Glen Must Endure at Least Nine Days Without Safe Tap Water



WATKINS GLEN, Aug. 21, 2018 — A boil-water advisory that was due to expire today has been extended until at least Friday, Aug. 24, for the Village of Watkins Glen, the Town of Dix and the Town of Reading.



The warning not to use untreated tap water was imposed Aug. 16 after torrential rains -- up to nine inches in 12 hours -- caused major flooding, extensive property damage and rivers of cloudy runoff flowing into Seneca Lake.

State and local officials jointly issued the boil-water order after the lake water, the source of tap water for the three water districts, failed to meet a state threshold for turbidity.

The village said on its website and on recorded phone messages Tuesday that it would be testing the water today. It said the test results would not be available for at least two days.

The advisory instructs residents to bring water to a rolling boil for one minute and cool before using for drinking, making ice, washing dishes, brushing teeth or preparing food.

The boil-water order forced the cancellation of a three-day rock concert festival by the Vermont jam band Phish, which had been expected to draw at least 30,000 people to the Watkins Glen International racetrack site.

The Phish festival, nicknamed Curveball, was set to begin Aug. 17. WGI President Michael Printup said the event had been expected to generate roughly \$30 million in economic activity for the region.

Several outlets, including WENY and Phish.net, mistakenly reported that the boil-water order had been lifted Aug. 17.

Turbidity doesn't necessarily have bad health effects itself. But it can and often does indicate the presence of harmful bacteria, viruses and parasites. These can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches or other symptoms, according to the health department.

BOIL WATER NOTICE

High turbidity levels found in Watkins Glen (V) water.
(name of Public Water System)

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

Bring tap water to a rolling boil, boil for one minute, and 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, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and preparing food until further notice.

This Boil Water Notice applies to: Watkins Glen (V), Dix & Reading Water Districts
(describe area or attach map)

What Happened?

Your water is routinely monitored for turbidity (cloudiness) to determine if it is being properly filtered. Water samples taken on August 15 - 16, 2018 (date) had turbidity levels of 1 to 13 turbidity units. This is above the allowable standard of 1.0 turbidity units. Because of the elevated turbidity, there is an increased chance that your drinking water may contain harmful microbes.

Turbidity alone has no health effects. But it can interfere with disinfection, allow harmful microbes to grow, and may indicate the presence of harmful microbes, including bacteria, viruses, and parasites. These can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms and may pose a special health risk for infants, some elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

But these symptoms are not just caused by microbes in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you should seek medical advice.

What is being done?

Raw water turbidity has exceeded 75 NTU due to a recent storm event and the water treatment plant is not filtering the water to within acceptable limits. The Village is working on cleaning/repairing the filters and water treatment plant. Upon resolution, the system shall be cleaned/flushed and disinfected. Thereafter, two consecutive days of water sample sets, collected 24 hours apart, shall be collected and analyzed by a NYSDOH approved laboratory for coliform. Upon notification that this Boil Water Notice has been lifted, consumers shall thoroughly flush their water system/plumbing prior to resuming normal use.
(describe corrective actions)

It is likely that you will need to boil water for the next 5 (days) (hours) until the problem is fixed. You will be informed when tests show that you no longer need to boil your water.

For more information, please contact:

Martin Pierce of Village of Watkins Glen at (607) 535-6914
(name of person) (name of Public Water System) (phone number)
or the Hornell District Office (HDO) at (607) 324-8371
(County/District Office) (phone number)

Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially anyone who may not get 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.

State Water System ID#: NY4801188 Date distributed: August 16, 2018

Post Settings X

Status v

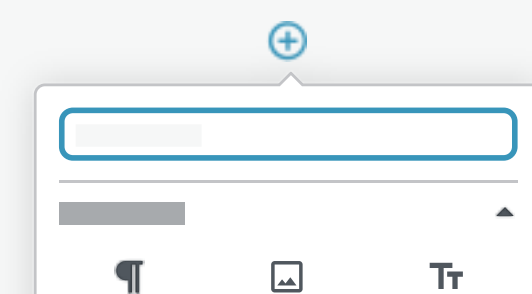
Categories & Tags v
Uncategorized

Featured Image v

Sharing v

Post Format v
Standard

More Options v



Try the new block editor and level up your layout.

Learn more

