PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL CONSUMERS OF

## [PWS#ID]

[Water System Name]

[Water System Address]

**PRECAUTIONARY** **DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**Bacteria may be present in the *[Water System Name]* water**

The ***[Water System Name]*** public water system consumers are advised as a **precaution** not to drink the water due to ***[describe situation – ex. System lost power, dewatered, inability to disinfect system immediately after repair, etc.]***

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

OR SEEK ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES

Bacterial contamination can occur when increased run-off enters the drinking water source (for example, following heavy rains). It can also happen due to a break in the distribution system (pipes) or a failure in the water treatment process.

**What should I do? What does this mean?**

* **YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED NOT TO 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. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
* **BOTTLED OR BOILED WATER SHOULD BE USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION INCLUDING DRINKING AND CULINARY PURPOSES. YOU MAY SHOWER IN THE WATER AND WASH HANDS, BUT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THIS WATER BE CONSUMED WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Please supervise young children while they are using water.** Alternate sources of water should come from a licensed public water system, licensed bottled water and/or licensed ice supplier.

*\*Fecal coliforms and 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, 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 at increased risk should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking this water.

**What is being done?**

**THIS HEALTH ADVISORY WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL CORRECTIVE ACTIONS ARE COMPLETED. *[Describe corrective action]*** You will receive written notice when this requirement is lifted. We anticipate resolving this problem within ***[estimated time frame].***

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact ***[Administrative Contact name and Telephone #]*** during the hours of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AM to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PM.

*\*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.\**

This notice is being sent to you by ***[PWS NAME, ID#: RIXXXXX]*** Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_\_.