

**Press Release**  
**DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**City of Big Rapids lost pressure and contamination may have occurred**

**BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING**

Due to loss of pressure in the Big Rapids water supply in part of the City, a boil water advisory has been issued for the area, north of Woodward Ave, north of Chestnut Street and north and east of Cypress Street (see attached map) on 12/04/2018, for a minimum of 48 hours. Loss of pressure creates a higher likelihood that bacterial contamination may have occurred in the water system. Bacteria are generally not harmful and are common throughout our environment. Corrective measures are to flush the system and collect bacteriological samples.

**What should I do?**

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. 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.

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

These precautionary actions are being taken due to the loss of water pressure in the low water distribution system, see attached map. Whenever a water system loses pressure for any significant length of time, precautionary measures are recommended.

The City of Big Rapids distribution system is working to get pressure restored, and water staff will be taking other remedial actions such as flushing and collecting bacteriological samples from around the system. The samples will be collected to determine that the water quality meets the state drinking water standards. We will inform the public when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 48 hours.

This boil water notice shall remain in effect until results from the sampling verify the water is safe to drink. **Customers will be advised when the boil water advisory has been lifted.**

For more information, please contact Heather Bowman, Public Works Director at 231-592-4018 or at City of Big Rapids, 226 N Michigan Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

Van Johnson - 3027/S2 0710  
CERTIFICATION: WSSN: [enter WSSN]  
I certify that this water supply has fully complied with the public notification requirements in the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules.  
Heather Bowman DPW Director 12-4-18  
Signature Title Date Distributed

Reminder to water supplier: This notice / certification must be sent to the DEQ.

cc: [cc the local health department and the Michigan Department of Agriculture if the boil affects a municipal supply.]