

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The City of Page Failed to Perform Activities Required to Address Coliform Bacteria Contamination of the Water System

During routine monitoring in November of 2022, our water system tested positive for total coliforms. **Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution.*

When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that are found. On November 15, 2022, and November 17, 2022, a single sample port station in the Page Water System tested positive for total coliforms absent E-Coli. We failed to conduct the required assessment by December 17, 2022.

As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your healthcare provider about drinking this water. You should also seek advice from your healthcare provider about using the water if you have an infant. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

Since total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves, this is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified within 24 hours.

Failure to identify and correct the defects has the potential to cause continued distribution system contamination. Inadequately treated or inadequately protected water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms can cause symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.

What is being done?

An inspection of this sample port station was completed in December 2022 to help determine the cause of the positive coliform results. No potential sources of contamination were found during this inspection.

After a discussion with the personnel responsible for taking the required samples, it was determined adequate flushing of the sample port was not completed prior to obtaining the sample.

A subsequent sample taken a few days later using the correct flushing procedures was tested. The results indicated the sample was absent (negative) for coliform.

With this information, it was determined the likely cause of the samples indicating positive for coliforms was due to inadequate flushing procedures performed prior to obtaining the sample. Retraining of sampling personnel has been conducted to ensure proper flushing procedures are followed.

For more information, please contact Chris Motko at (928)645-4315 or Page Utility Enterprises, PO Box 1955, Page, AZ, 86040.

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 the City of Page (Page Utility Enterprises). State Water System ID#: AZ0403017.

Date distributed: 09-30-26.