

BOIL WATER NOTICE RESCINDED
SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS ADVISORY STILL IN EFFECT

October 6, 2020

The City of Lake Jackson has taken the necessary corrective actions to rescind the Boil Water Notice that was issued on September 26, 2020. The City of Lake Jackson was required to issue the Boil Water Notice after the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality documented that the City of Lake Jackson's public water supply did not meet TCEQ's minimum disinfection standards throughout the entire system.

On October 5th and 6th, the City of Lake Jackson and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) documented disinfectant residuals were above the TCEQ's required disinfection standards throughout the entire system and microbiological samples were collected confirming the City's drinking water was negative for harmful bacteria.

The tap water is safe to drink. Residents will no longer need to boil the City's water prior to using for drinking and cooking but are urged to continue to avoid getting water up into their noses to reduce the risk of *Naegleria fowleri* infection. Residents should continue the precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) until concerns with the ameba have been resolved. Residents will be notified when that occurs. Precautions recommended by the CDC to avoid getting water into the nose include the following:

- **DO NOT** allow water to go up your nose or sniff water into your nose when bathing, showering, washing your face, or swimming in small, hard plastic/blow-up pools.
- **DO NOT** jump into or put your head under bathing water (bathtubs; small, hard plastic/blow-up pools) - walk or lower yourself in.
- **DO NOT** allow children to play unsupervised with hoses or sprinklers, as they may accidentally squirt water up their nose. Avoid slip-n-slides or other activities where it is difficult to prevent water going up the nose.
- **DO** run bath and shower taps and hoses for 5 minutes before use to flush out the pipes.
- **DO** keep small, hard plastic/blow-up pools clean by emptying, scrubbing, and allowing them to dry after each use.
- **DO** use only boiled and cooled, distilled, or sterile water for making sinus rinse solutions for neti pots or performing ritual ablutions.
- **DO** keep your swimming pool adequately disinfected before and during use. Adequate disinfection means:
 - Pools: free chlorine at 1-3 parts per million (ppm) and pH 7.2-7.8; and
 - Hot tubs/spas: free chlorine 2-4 parts per million (ppm) or free bromine 4-6 ppm and pH 7.2-7.8.
- **DO** place the hose directly into the skimmer box and ensure that the filter is running.
- **DO NOT** top off by placing the hose in the body of the pool.

People cannot be infected with *Naegleria fowleri* by consuming drinking water. The *Naegleria fowleri* amoeba does not cause an infection if it is in water that a person drinks because the amoeba is killed by normal levels of stomach acid. However, individuals can become infected with *Naegleria fowleri* when water contaminated with the amoeba enters the body through the nose. Once the amoeba enters the nose, they can travel to the brain where they may cause Primary Amebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) For more information on PAM please visit the CDC website at: <<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/naegleria/illness.html>>.

The TCEQ has required the City of Lake Jackson to continue the free chlorine disinfection process for at least 60 more days or as long as necessary to fully remedy the detection of the *Naegleria fowleri* amoeba in the water. The TCEQ and the City of Lake Jackson will continue to closely monitor the public water supply on a daily basis for compliance with state and federal drinking water standards to ensure the water is safe to drink. More information concerning TCEQ's response to this incident is located at: <<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/city-of-lake-jackson>>.

Please share this information with all other people who receive 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.

Additional Information:

The POD distributing water will be open until Friday, October 9, 2020 at the Recreation Center.

Hours-

Wednesday & Thursday: 8am-7pm

Friday: 8am-7pm (or until supplies run out)

For More Information Call:

Public Water System contact: Modesto Mundo, Lake Jackson City Manager, (979) 415-2500

This notice is being sent to you by the City of Lake Jackson. Public Water System ID # 0200006.

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