



Rural Municipality of Springfield

Public Works Department

Box 219, 27055 Oakwood Road

Oakbank, Manitoba, R0E-1J0

Phone: 444-2241 Fax: 444-2389

PUBLIC NOTICE

WELL WATER SAFETY: Town of Oakbank

July 9, 2010

Data from recent private well water sampling in Oakbank has identified detectable levels of bacteria in a number of wells.

It is recommended that that testing be carried out on wells throughout the community to determine the extent of contamination and to determine whether or not it is limited to one area or is aquifer-wide.

In the interim, residents of Oakbank are being reminded of the precautionary measures. All Manitobans using water from wells or other sources impacted by heavy rainfall or flooding are being advised to boil their water or use alternative supplies of drinking water as a precautionary measure until appropriate tests are satisfactory.

Persons using untreated well water are advised to bring this water to a rolling boil for at least one minute before consumption. This includes water used for: drinking, food preparation, ice making, vegetable and fruit washing, brushing teeth, and the making of infant formula. This water may be used for other domestic purposes such as hand washing, bathing, showering, dishwashing and laundry. Small children who may drink bath water should receive sponge baths instead of baths or showers. If boiling is not feasible, an alternate and safe supply of water should be used. To avoid burn injuries from hot water, caution should be taken. Please keep young children away from boiled water and place kettles and pots away from counter and stove edges.

These precautions should remain in place until test results confirm the bacterial safety of the water. The provincial government has recently waived the fees for testing of private drinking water wells, which is in effect until July 31. Residents wishing to test their own wells under this program can pick up sample bottles from the Public Works Office at 27055 Oakwood Road. The Public Works Department will be transporting samples to the lab at noon daily until July 16th, so residents may drop off samples taken to the Public Works Office for transport to the lab.

For information on wells and water testing, and on interpretation of test results, contact your local drinking water officer, the Manitoba Office of Drinking Water at 204-945-5762, Health Links-Info Santé at 204-788-8200 (toll free at 1-888-315-9257) or visit the website at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cmoh/water.html> to access the Manitoba well-water fact sheets.