



Town of Johnstown

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Town of Johnstown had the following violations identified during a drinking water inspection

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

A routine drinking water inspection conducted on November 7, 2023 by the state drinking water program identified the following violations that may pose a risk to public health.

From 2020 to 2023, the Town of Johnstown outsourced water tank and water plant operations to a Contract Operator. In the 2nd quarter of 2023, the Town brought tank and water plant operations in-house. During the transition, the documentation of an alternative tank inspection schedule and its requirements were not clearly communicated to the Town. Throughout 2023, the Town performed quarterly ground inspections, as well as daily site visits for water quality monitoring on the North Tank, believing this met the requirements of the State and more importantly in the interest of public health and safety. Because only the sidewalls and undercarriage of the tank were inspected and not the top of the tank, this resulted in a storage tank rule treatment technique violation of Regulation 11, Section 11.28(4)(c)(ii).

To correct the issue, the Town has worked with State drinking water officials to file a request that was accepted to formalize the alternative periodic tank inspection requirements that involve quarterly ground inspections and one ascent to the top of the tank each year to perform a periodic visual inspection. In early December, upon notification of this issue, the Town contracted an independent 3rd party to inspect the top of the tank. At the time of the inspection, no violations existed indicating there was no risk to public health.

Additionally, during the routine drinking water inspection, the State Department Inspector observed that five irrigation backflow assemblies owned and operated by a Home Owner's Association (HOA) appeared to have not been tested in two consecutive calendar years (2021 and 2022). Having an assembly or method exceed two consecutive calendar years without being tested despite only being used 6 months out of the year meets the definition of permitting a cross-connection. This resulted in a Backflow Prevention Cross Connection Control treatment technique violation in accordance with Regulation 11, Section 11.39(6)(a)(ii).

To correct the issue, all backflow assemblies that were utilized for more than two consecutive years without appropriate testing documentation were controlled by discontinuing and locking-out service prior to the drinking water inspection. On December 7, 2023, the five (5) irrigation backflow assemblies were tested and reported as functioning properly and as required. This test passing indicated and verified there was no risk to public health.

These violations of regulation 11 require Tier 2 public notice in accordance with Regulation 11, Section 11.33 (Public Notification Rule).

The Community That Cares

johnstown.colorado.gov

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Identified Violation	Date of Correction	Steps We Are Taking
<p>Periodic Storage Tank Inspections Not Performed or Documented (T2): Supplier failed to perform or document at least one periodic tank inspection in a twelve-month period. This is a storage tank rule treatment technique violation of Regulation 11, Section 11.28(4)(c)(ii).</p>	<p>1/2/24</p>	<p>The Town filed a request that was accepted to formalize the alternative periodic inspections schedule. While quarterly ground inspections were performed, in an effort to be more proactive, the Town also completed a more in-depth Comprehensive Tank Inspection by December 13, 2023, in lieu of the missed 2023 periodic inspection requirements. The report was submitted to the State for review on January 2, 2024.</p>
<p>Supplier has Permitted a Cross-Connection. (T2): Supplier has permitted a cross-connection and did not control the cross-connection within the 120-day deadline or within a timeline specified in an alternative schedule. This is a backflow prevention and cross-connection control (BPCCC) treatment technique violation of Regulation 11, Section 11.39(6)(a)(ii).</p>	<p>11/7/23</p>	<p>The Town demonstrated that all assemblies that were not tested had either been tested or were controlled by discontinuing and locking-out service to the customer. The department considers the issue resolved, and no further action is needed. The Town also had a certified tester inspect the controlled devices. The inspection and tests passed and results were submitted into the backflow system by December 7, 2023.</p>

- Inadequately maintained storage tanks, identified through inspections, may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.
- Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to a back pressure or siphonage event that may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do at this time. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

A comprehensive tank inspection was performed on the North Tank on December 12 - 13, 2023. The report from the comprehensive tank inspection was submitted to the State for review and resolution on January 2, 2024. All backflow assemblies that were utilized for more than two consecutive years without appropriate testing documentation were controlled by suspension of service by November 7, 2023 and have been tested and reported passing by December 7, 2023. For more information, please contact **Ellen Hilbig** at ehilbig@johnstowncolorado.gov or **970-587-4664**, or **450 S Parish Ave, Johnstown, CO**.

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: Town of Johnstown - CO0162418

Date distributed: **1/5/2024**

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