



PRESS RELEASE

WATER QUALITY ADVISORY (TURBIDITY) – UPPER ZONE PERMANENT BOIL WATER NOTICE – LOWER ZONE

May 8, 2020

In consultation with the Interior Health Authority, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (Operations contractor for the water system) is issuing two separate water notifications for the Sage Mesa water system.

UPPER ZONE – WATER QUALITY ADVISORY

A **Water Quality Advisory** for turbidity is in effect immediately for the Upper Zone of the Sage Mesa water system. Turbidity at the Okanagan Lake intake for Sage Mesa is now at a “Fair” rating according to the Interior Health Authority’s turbidity index. This **Water Quality Advisory** includes all properties with addresses on the following roads:

- Sandstone Dr.
- Westwood Dr.
- Ponderosa Pl.
- Sandstone Cres.
- Pinetree Pl.
- Tyrone Pl.
- Sandpiper Ln.
- Estates Pl.
- Forsyth Pl.
- Forsyth Dr.
- Ryan Rd.

What is a **Water Quality Advisory**?

A **Water Quality Advisory** is a level of notification below a **Boil Water Notice**. A **Water Quality Advisory** is used in situations where the general public health threat is modest.

Who may need additional protection?

- People with weakened immune systems
- People with chronic illnesses
- Infants and children
- The elderly
- People wishing to seek additional protection.



Precautionary Instructions

Those individuals seeking additional protection are advised to use a safe alternate source of water or to boil water for all drinking, infant formula preparation, brushing teeth, food preparation/cooking purposes and ice making. Water should be brought to a full boil and allowed to boil for at least 1 minute.

The RDOS would also like to remind all business owners/operators (bed and breakfasts) and public facilities operators that it is the responsibility of said establishments to notify their customers of the **Water Quality Advisory**.

See Over ⇒

LOWER ZONE – BOIL WATER NOTICE

A permanent **Boil Water Notice** continues for the Lower Zone of the Sage Mesa. This **Boil Water Notice** includes all properties with addresses on the following roads:

- Sage Mesa Drive
- Ladera Place
- Pine Hills Drive
- Solana Crescent
- Verano Place

This Notice will remain in effect until the appropriate engineering upgrades are in place to provide the required chlorine contact time between the Lake Pump Station and the first customers of the system (the Lower Zone).

Residents are advised to use a safe alternate source of water or to boil water for all drinking, oral hygiene and food preparation/cooking purposes. Water should be brought to a full boil and allowed to boil for at least 1 minute to reduce the risk of infection from pathogens that may be found in the water.

The Interior Health Authority has identified an insufficient chlorine contact time for users in the Lower Zone of the Sage Mesa Water system required to properly to disinfect any surface water viruses and bacteria. In order to meet the required contact time, infrastructure improvements will be required. Therefore this will be a permanent Boil Water Notice for the Lower Zone users.

The RDOS would also like to remind all business owners/operators (bed and breakfasts) and public facilities operators that it is the responsibility of said establishments to notify their customers of the **Boil Water Notice**.

For further information, please contact the Public Works Department at 250.490.4106 or 250.490.4135. For after-hours water related emergencies, please call Regional Dispatch at 250.490.4141.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sign up for Civic Ready to receive RDOS emergency information and Electoral Area updates. See below.

**SIGN UP NOW TO RECEIVE
IMPORTANT WATER SYSTEM NOTIFICATIONS**

Be Informed—Be Safe—Be Involved In Your Community

Why should I sign up?

The RDOS wants to ensure its citizens are well informed and involved in their communities. The CivicReady mass notification solution as a communication service available for all residents of the area to sign up and receive water system and routine notifications like this one, straight on your mobile phone by text, email and even your landline with text-to-speech capabilities or all options.

How do I sign up?

It's easy! Simply go to www.rdos.bc.ca/news-events/Civic-Ready, click on your electoral area, enter your contact information and select the groups you'd like to receive notifications from. Then we'll send updated alerts through either email, phone call, or text or all. Modifications to the alerts can be made at any time from your CivicReady account.

RECEIVE INFO ON:

Emergency Notifications:

- EOC Updates
- Sandbag Pick-Up Locations
- ESS Locations
- Wildfire Updates
- Dangerous Animals in the Area Notices

Routine Notifications:

- Community Events
- Water & Sewer System Alerts
- Curbside Pick Up & Landfill Hours
- Information Releases

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