



INFORMATION RELEASE

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

May 5, 2023

In consultation with the Interior Health Authority, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS), operations contractor for the Sage Mesa water system, is issuing a **Water Quality Advisory** for the Upper Zone of Sage Mesa. This is in response to an increase in turbidity at the Okanagan Lake intake. The RDOS is reminding residents of the Lower Zone of Sage Mesa to adhere to the **permanent Boil Water Notice** that remains in effect.

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

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

turbidity index



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**.

LOWER ZONE – BOIL WATER NOTICE

The permanent **Boil Water Notice** remains in effect for the Lower Zone of Sage Mesa. This **Boil Water Notice** includes all properties with addresses on the following roads:

- Sage Mesa Dr.
- Ladera Pl.
- Solana Cres.
- Pine Hills Dr.
- Verna Pl.

This **Boil Water 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 one (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. Chlorine contact times are required to allow for proper disinfection of surface water sources that may contain pathogens such as viruses and bacteria. In order to meet the required contact time, infrastructure improvements will be required.

The RDOS is also reminding 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 RDOS Utilities 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 Voyent Alert to receive RDOS emergency information and Electoral Area updates. See below.

VOYENT ALERT!

NOTIFICATION SERVICE

RDOS
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

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