



# PRESS RELEASE

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

APRIL 24, 2019

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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.

### LOWER ZONE – BOIL WATER NOTICE

A permanent **Boil Water Notice** is in effect immediately 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**.

### 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.

See Over ⇒

### 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**.

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.

Send an email to [info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca) and remember to include your name and address to receive future email notifications.