

Toplines

- The City has heard the concerns of our residents around improving accessibility and is urging older adults and homebound residents to call 3-1-1 to schedule delivery of water.
- The precautionary advisory for the areas identified on the maps remains in effect.
- To date, the City has received 25 water results back – all results were negative with the exception of one at the Police Station on 1034 N. Mount Street in the directly impacted area.
- DPW is continuing to investigate the cause of the contamination by:
 - Surveying and sampling other locations
 - Identifying construction projects in the area
 - Performing leak test
 - Performing valve assessments
 - Checking chlorine levels
- Signs and symptoms of pathogenic E. coli *usually* begin three or four days after exposure to the bacteria. But you *may* become ill as soon as one day after exposure up to more than a week later.
 - Those signs and symptoms include:
 - Diarrhea, which may range from mild and watery to severe and bloody
 - Stomach cramping, pain or tenderness, and/or nausea, and vomiting, in some people.
 - Please contact your doctor if you develop diarrhea that is persistent, severe, or bloody.
- In an effort to stay safe during the boil water advisory, you should boil water for at least 1 minute then cool it prior to use for the following:
 - Drinking,
 - Brushing teeth,
 - Washing fruits and vegetables,
 - Preparing baby food and formula,
 - Making ice,
 - Giving to pets,
 - Washing dishes,
 - AND
 - Food Preparation.

Attendees:

- Mayor Scott
- City Administrator Chris Shorter
- DPW Director Jason Mitchell
- Health Commissioner Dr. Letitia Dzirasa
- Office of Emergency Management Director Chief James Wallace
- DPW's Water and Wastewater Bureau Chief Yosef Kebede

Mayor Scott Highlights

- **We've heard the concerns of our residents around improving accessibility and are urging older adults and homebound residents to call 3-1-1 to schedule delivery of water.**
- The health and well-being of our residents is our top priority and we will keep working diligently to determine the source of the contamination, address the problem, and resume the delivery of clean, drinkable water to our residents.
- We are continuing to distribute clean water to locations throughout the advisory zone.
- You have my word that we will get this issue resolved in a timely fashion, but I also want our residents to realize that this isn't something that can be resolved overnight.
- We are continuing to test locations throughout the City and the surrounding counties and will continue to do so until the issue is resolved.

Director Mitchell Highlights

- **The precautionary advisory for the areas identified on the maps remains in effect.**
- We are continuing to work diligently in the areas where the required advisory remains in effect for Sandtown and Harlem Park Communities.
- I want to reiterate DPW's total compliance with EPA/MDE guidelines regarding notification, sampling, and mitigation of contaminants.
- The Department of Public Works routinely takes proactive samples from 90 locations within our distribution coverage area equating to 360 samples each month.
- Last Friday – September 2nd – we took samples from 19 locations as identified on the initial distribution map.
- Results for one location in the Sandtown and Harlem Park communities – Fire Engine 8 at 1503 W. Lafayette Ave. – came back positive on Saturday, September 3rd. We immediately notified the Maryland Department of Environment and conducted a second confirmation test and including the police station on 1034 N.

Mount Street and a facility at 920 N. Carey Street. These facilities also tested positive.

- To date, we have received 25 results back – all results were negative with the exception of one at the Police Station on 1034 N. Mount Street in the directly impacted area.
- In the impacted zones, we have taken samples every 8 hours at this location and we expect the latest results later today.
- DPW is continuing to investigate the cause of the contamination by:
 - Surveying and sampling other locations
 - Identifying construction projects in the area
 - Performing leak test
 - Performing valve assessments
 - Checking chlorine levels

Chief James Wallace

- In total, we've distributed more than 53,000 gallons of water and we continue to hear from businesses and organizations who want to donate water and that support is greatly appreciated.
- When a situation like this arises, we immediately activate our Emergency Operation Center or EOC. We've had staff from various city agencies gathered to monitor what is happening and respond as necessary. The EOC has been open since Monday and will remain open until this situation is resolved.
- Today, we opened for the third day our water distribution centers to provide safe water to residents in the impacted areas.
- The distribution centers – located at Harlem Park Middle, Lansdowne and Middle Branch Elementary, will remain open today until 8 p.m. and reopen tomorrow morning.

Health Commissioner Dr. Dzirasa

- While the boil water advisory is in effect, I want to review what E. Coli is and how you can protect yourself and your family from possible gastrointestinal illnesses caused by E. Coli.
- E.coli is a bacteria normally found in the intestines of healthy people and animals.
- Most types of E. coli are harmless or cause relatively brief diarrhea. But a few strains can cause severe stomach cramps, bloody diarrhea, and vomiting.
- You may be exposed to E. coli from contaminated water or food. Healthy adults usually recover from infection with pathogenic E. Coli within a week. Young

children and older adults have a greater risk of developing a life-threatening form of kidney failure if infected with pathogenic E. Coli.

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- Making ice,
- Giving to pets,
- Washing dishes,
- AND
- Food Preparation.

Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

Residents should discard all stored water, drinks, or ice made recently and can store boiled water in a clean container with a cover.

While it is generally safe to wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 secs, out of an abundance of caution, use the approved/ provided water supply to wash your hands.