

**DRINKING WATER WARNING - BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING  
The Benton Charter and Sodus Township Water Systems lost pressure  
and contamination may have occurred.**

Due to a drop in pressure in the Benton Charter Township water distribution system, bacterial contamination may have occurred in the water system. This may also affect customers of the Sodus Township water system. Bacteria are generally not harmful and are common throughout our environment. Corrective measures are currently being undertaken to correct the situation.

**Who is impacted?**

All Benton Charter Township water supply customers located south of the Paw Paw River and all Sodus Township water supply customers.

**What should I do?**

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and preparing food. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water. Continue using boiled or bottled water until further notice.

**What happened? What is being done?**

These precautionary actions are being taken due to the loss of water pressure in the water distribution system caused by the malfunction of two pressure sustaining valves on October 31, 2018. A project is underway on the 4 Million Gallon Euclid Standpipe which required Benton Charter Township to temporarily change the flow of water in the distribution system. The change caused the pressure sustaining valves to automatically close. The issue was identified promptly and has been corrected. Whenever a water system loses pressure for any significant length of time, precautionary measures are recommended.

The Benton Charter Township Water System has restored pressure and water staff will be taking other remedial actions such as collecting bacteriological samples from around the system. The samples will be collected to determine that the water quality meets the state drinking water standards. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolution on November 1, 2018.

This boil water notice shall remain in effect until results from the sampling verify the water is safe to drink. **Customers will be advised when the boil water advisory has been lifted.**

For more information, please contact Kelli Smith, Benton Township Superintendent, at (269) 925-0616 ext. 126. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

*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.*

CERTIFICATION: WSSN: 00605 / 06079  
I certify that this water supply has fully complied with the public notification requirements in the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules. Benton charter  
Kelli Smith Township Superintendent 10/31/18  
Signature Title Date Distributed

cc: Berrien County Health Department and the Michigan Department of Agriculture