

Protecting Public Health During UV Disinfection System Failures

Maine CDC Drinking Water Program • 11 SHS Augusta, ME 04330 • 287-2070 • www.medwp.com

When Your UV System Fails or is Bypassed

When an Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system is malfunctioning or bypassed, whether it is discovered by inspection or as a response to an initial bacteria positive water sample, there are steps that you must take to ensure the health and safety of your water system's consumers. The steps outlined below apply to small groundwater systems with UV disinfection systems either required by DWP or installed voluntarily.



Immediate Required Actions	Actions Needed to Resolve Boil Water Order
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Issue Boil Water Order ✓ Notify all customers of the Boil Water Order as soon as possible within 24 hours and keep posted until order is lifted¹ ✓ Immediately notify the DWP of the UV system failure at 287-2070 or after hours at 557-4214. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Repair UV system and ensure it is working properly ✓ Shock chlorinate system (recommended)² ✓ Flush water system thoroughly² ✓ Contact the DWP to arrange for the collection of a minimum of 3 BWO removal bacteria samples (after chlorine residual from shocking is zero) either by DWP personnel or a DWP approved delegate ✓ The BWO will be lifted after the BWO removal bacteria samples are confirmed to be negative ✓ Follow-up water samples may be required by DWP

Maintaining Your UV System

It is important to maintain your UV Treatment system to ensure it is working properly and to help prevent treatment failures or malfunctions before they happen. The following are guidelines for maintaining your UV treatment system:

Maintaining UV Treatment Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Check the UV light sensor at least twice a week to verify the UV light is on and working properly & report on monthly operating report (MOR) ✓ Submit MORs monthly to the DWP by the 10th of the following month ✓ Replace the UV light bulb and pretreatment filter at least annually, and more often if necessary ✓ Have your UV treatment system inspected, calibrated, and serviced by a water treatment professional on an annual basis ✓ Keep maintenance logs which detail when the UV treatment system was serviced, when bulbs and filters were replaced, etc. ✓ If you operate a seasonal water system, inspect and clean the UV treatment device prior to use at the start of each operating season. Additionally, the UV treatment system including the filters should be disinfected prior to the start of each operating season

Other Types of Treatment Failure

When other types of treatment fail such as an Arsenic Removal or a Corrosion Control treatment system, the failure may cause unsafe levels of contaminants to be present in the drinking water and may cause an immediate health risk to anyone who drinks the water. In such cases, a Do Not Drink Order or a Do Not Use Order may be necessary in order to protect the health and safety of your water system's consumers. **It is vital that with any treatment failure, you call the DWP immediately at 287-2070.**

1. Notification shall be made using the DWP approved Boil Water Order Notice which can be found on the DWP website at www.medwp.com or by calling 287-2070. The notice must be distributed to the consumer either by hand, or posting in a common area.

2. Guidance on the proper procedure for shock chlorinating and flushing water systems can be found on the DWP website at www.medwp.com or by calling the DWP at 287-2070.



Boil Water Order

Due to the possibility of unsafe water, _____ consumers are directed to **Boil All Water** for at least 1 minute before drinking, making ice cubes, washing foods, brushing teeth or in any other activity involving consumption of water. This Order shall remain in effect until further notice!

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to: _____ at _____

or to the

State of Maine Drinking Water Program at
287-2070 during normal business hours.

TO BE POSTED IMMEDIATELY.