

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

San Jose State University Has Levels of Coliform Bacteria Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We took 102 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during the month of November, 2017. Six samples or 5.8% of those samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 5.0 percent of our samples may do so.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*
- Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately. However, we are still finding coliforms in the drinking water.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

San Jose State University has a robust water quality monitoring and testing program where water samples are collected from 18 locations on campus and tested every week for Coliform Bacteria. As part of our routine weekly sampling protocol, 18 water samples were collected on November 6, 2017. Of the 18 samples, 1 sample tested positive for Coliform Bacteria in the SJSU water distribution system.

- As part of our investigation and corrective action to the positive test result, 9 repeat samples were collected on November 8, 2017. All tested negative for Coliform Bacteria in the SJSU water distribution system.

Again, as part of our routine weekly sampling protocol, 18 water samples were collected the following week dated November 13, 2017. Of the 18 samples, 5 samples tested positive for Coliform Bacteria.

- As part of an expanded investigation and corrective action, 21 repeat samples were collected the following day on November 14, 2017. All tested negative for Coliform Bacteria in the SJSU water distribution system.
- All subsequent routine weekly sampling events that have occurred on November 20 & 27 and December 4, 2017, did not detect Coliform Bacteria in the SJSU water distribution system.

This water quality incident is resolved. SJSU believes that the incident is transient in nature and does not reflect the integrity of our water distribution system. Our investigation of the water distribution system did not detect any water line breaks or any other maintenance issues.

We will continue to work with our water purveyor, San Jose Water Company, and the State Water Resources Control Board, which regulates our water distribution system, to ensure that our water supply is safe. The SWRCB was instrumental in our investigation of this incident. Facilities Development & Operations has taken steps to inspect and maintain our water distribution system to ensure that it is in good working order. We are in communication with our water testing service provider to ensure that we continue to receive a rapid alert in the event of a positive test result .

For more information, please contact David Krack, SJSU Director of Environmental Health & Safety at 408-924-1978, david.krack@sjsu.edu or San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA. 95192-0010, C/O Environmental Health & Safety.

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 public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by San Jose State University.

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