



WATER QUALITY ADVISORY (WQA)

Lund Waterworks District is issuing a **WATER QUALITY ADVISORY** for the Lund Water System

**THE CURRENT LEVEL OF TREATMENT DOES NOT MEET
VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.**

Treatment Deficiencies

Current disinfection is chlorination only. A second barrier to disinfection, such as UV treatment, is required for surface water supplies in BC. Technical and financial barriers prevent installing UV treatment on the Lund system at this time.

Also, the lake water has high levels of organics, i.e., total organic carbon (TOC). Chlorine disinfection leads to elevated levels of chlorination by-products, including Trihalomethanes (THM). THM levels in Lund water regularly exceed the maximum allowable concentration in the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality.

What does a Water Quality Advisory mean?

A WQA means the risk is low; only some customers are advised take extra precautions when ingesting the water.

Options to Reduce Risk

People with weakened immune systems (which may include the young, elderly, immunocompromised, and pregnant women), and/or wishing additional protection are advised to take the following precautions when drinking, washing fruits & vegetables, making beverages or ice, or brushing teeth.

- 1. Bring water to a rolling boil for at least 1 minute, or**
- 2. Use an alternate, safe source of water, such as bottled water.**

For more information email Courtney Robertson, Water Operator, at courtney.robertson808@gmail.com

See reverse for further WQA information.

Water Quality Advisory Information

Why is a Water Quality Advisory being issued?

Drinking water systems with a surface water source, like the LWD, are at risk of containing pathogens that can cause illness if untreated. The vast majority of these pathogens, like bacteria and viruses, can be adequately addressed using chlorine disinfection. Some pathogens, such as protozoan parasites, are present in surface water and are not easily disinfected by chlorine. For this reason, a second barrier to disinfection, such as UV treatment, is required for surface water supplies in British Columbia.

There are technical and financial barriers to installing UV treatment on the Lund system at this time; therefore, a WQA has been issued.

Further, total organic carbon (TOC) in the source water poses an ongoing challenge. TOC impacts the ability to treat the water to the full standard required and leads to elevated levels of chlorination by-products, including Trihalomethanes (THM). THM tests conducted by LWD, have revealed that THM levels regularly exceed the maximum allowable concentration (MAC) as per the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality (GCDWQ).

What does a Water Quality Advisory mean?

A Water Quality Advisory means the risk is low, and only some customers are advised take extra precautions when ingesting the water. VCH information describes the difference between a Water Quality Advisory and a Boil Water Notice as follows:

Water Quality Advisory Used in situations in which the public health threat posed by the water supply system is modest, and actions can be taken to reduce the risks through means other than requiring a Boil Water Notice or Do Not Use Water Notice.

Boil Water Notice Used in situations in which the public health threat posed by the water supply system is significant and the nature of the threat is one that can be effectively addressed through boiling of the water.

Boil Water Notices are typically issued when the results of bacteriological testing indicate levels of e.coli or Total coliform that exceed Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines.

Please review the VQA carefully. If you have a vacation rental or other business serving members of the public, ***please post this notice on the premises*** so visitors are informed.

Who should take extra precautions?

Individuals with very weak immune systems are advised to take extra precautions. These can include: the young, elderly, immunocompromised and pregnant.

What should these customers do?

There are two options for individuals wishing to further minimize their risk.

1. Customers may bring water intended for drinking, washing fruits or vegetables, making beverages or ice, and brushing teeth to a full boil for 1 minute.
2. Customers may install a Point of Use or Point of Entry treatment device at their individual home for potable water use. A small water systems professional can provide advice on what type of unit will be suitable for your home. Alternatively, individuals may choose to use a different potable water source, such as bottled water, for these purposes.