

## Public Notification

A water supplier must give public notification regarding threats to drinking water quality. For emergencies and current information, contact your water supplier.

Interior Health provides a list of **Notifications** on our website that include:

- **Water Quality Advisory** is used for situations in which the public health threat is moderate.
- **Boil Water Notice** is used when the public health threat is significant and the nature of the threat is one that can be addressed by boiling your tap water.
- **Do Not Use Water Notice** is used when a significant public health threat exists and the threat cannot adequately be addressed by a *Water Quality Advisory* or *Boil Water Notice*.



For more information, please contact your local health unit or visit our website:

[www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)

or

[www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles](http://www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles)



Interior Health

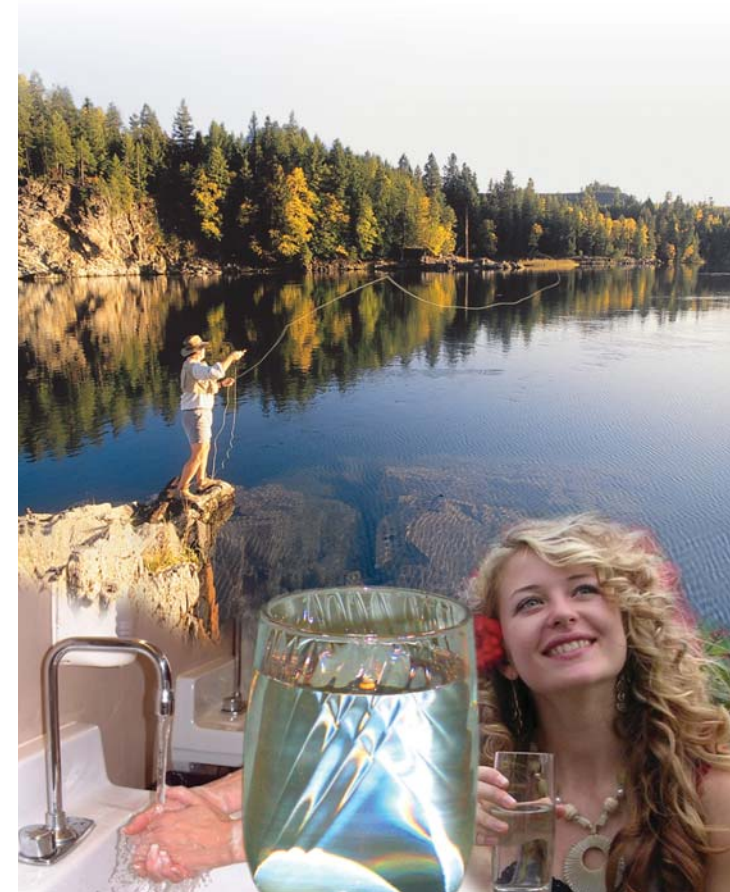


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## How Safe is Your Water?



Interior Health

## Potable Water For All

The Interior Health Drinking Water Program aims to ensure potable water for all community water users. Our staff include Medical Health Officers, Public Health Engineers and Public Health Inspectors who are all Drinking Water Officers.

- Our involvement begins with watershed management; in other words, protecting the land where the water originates



Kootenay Lake

- Structural design of water systems, including distribution pipes and water treatment, is approved by our Public Health Engineers
- Drinking water flowing to your tap is monitored by the water supplier to ensure the quality meets the Canadian standards
- Water Notification is provided by the water supplier when *Canadian Drinking Water Standards* are not met
- Drinking Water Officers issue permits to support water suppliers in meeting their obligations

## Drinking Water Quality Improvement Program

The *Drinking Water Quality Improvement Program* is a comprehensive program that promotes continuous improvement to larger water systems serving more than 500 users per day. Water suppliers participating in the program use best management practices to provide high quality drinking water.

This innovative program focuses on a collaborative approach between water suppliers and our Drinking Water Officers. The program includes conditions on operating permits that promote improved drinking water quality.



Water quality testing equipment

## Turbidity Education and Notification Campaign

Interior Health has a *Turbidity Education and Notification Campaign* to better protect customers of unfiltered surface water systems. For details go to [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)

### turbidity index

GOOD FAIR POOR

Interior Health and (water supplier name) remind customers of the provincial recommendation that newborns and people with weakened immune systems drink boiled water or a safe alternative at all times if served by an unfiltered surface water source.

**Health risks increase as turbidity rises.  
Stay Safe.**

**Water Supplier Name**

**Website Address and Phone Number**

## Important Drinking Water Links

Visit [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)

> **Health and Safety** > **Drinking Water** for:

- Public Notification Levels and Their Definitions
- Health Protection Contact Information
- How to Safely Consume Water on a Boil Water Notice
- Immune Compromised Should Take Precautions With Drinking Water – Medical Health Officer
- Turbidity Education and Notification Media Release.