**DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**CITY OF BREWSTER**

**Public Water Nitrate Notification**

**DO NOT GIVE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR**

 **USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA**

* **Water sample results collected 4-10-2019 from water well 1, 2 and 4 . These test by KDHE showed nitrate levels of 11.00 mg/L on all of the municipal water wells 1, 2, and 4.**

**Therefore, water well #1,#2 and#4 are above the federal nitrate standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.**

What should I do?

1. **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS**. *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.* Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.
2. Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
3. **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
4. **Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they can’t process the nitrates in the same way adults can).** However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. We will continue to test and monitor to work at getting below the MCL limit.

The City of Brewster will continue to monitor the water as directed by the Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment. Currently with this water concern we will be offering bottled water to “at-risk” persons including: infants under 6 months of age, pregnant women or vulnerable persons with nitrate health risk under a doctor’s care. This water will be available at the City Office at 425 Illinois Avenue at your request to qualified resident users. Our water quality concerns have been shared with the KDHE staff in Topeka over our nitrate levels. The City of Brewster is in the process stage of funding for a blending station along with an alternative water supply source. This process has taken over 4 years to get the agreements and financing options in order. We hope to have a start date sometime in 2019. **Drilling a new well does not always secure safer water**. Many cities are facing these same or even worse water quality issues**. We still have very good water quality as a whole for the City of Brewster**. The City of Brewster’s Consumer Confidence Report may be viewed at: http://www.krwa.net/krwa/ccr/brewster/Brewster.pdf

For more information, please contact: **City Superintendent, Mike Schultz at Phone 785-694-2205 for the office or 785-462-1447 or by mail to: 425 Illinois St. P.O. Box 147, Brewster, Ks 67732**

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.

This notice is being sent to you by the **CITY OF BREWSTER**

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