

CITY OF OSAWATOMIE



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L. Mark Govea, Mayor

NEWS RELEASE:
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KDHE Issues Boil Order for Osawatomie

Osawatomie – The City of Osawatomie is under a boil order because of a water main break Friday afternoon, resulting in a significant drop in water pressure for local customers.

A boil order was issued later that afternoon as a mandatory measure for all homes and businesses within the city's service area because the break could potentially result in a loss of chlorine residuals and bacterial contamination. Because the municipal water plant also supplies Miami County Rural Water districts 1 and 3, the boil order will pertain to those customers as well.

While officials were in the process of restoring proper water levels in the distribution system and towers Friday night, the boil order remains in effect from March 17, 2017, until pressure returns, and testing by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) water quality laboratory confirms good water quality. Lab confirmation typically takes, at a minimum, 24 hours from the time samples are collected.

City officials learned Friday night the earliest they could know the results, or anything regarding the lifting of the order, will be 1 p.m. Sunday.

All residential and commercial customers should boil water for at least two minutes before consuming or using in food preparation, or use bottled water for drinking until the alert is lifted.

City officials also recommend customers observe the following:

- If you have an icemaker in your refrigerator/freezer, dispose of the ice cubes, and do not use any newly made ice until the order is lifted.
- Boil water or opt for the bottled variety when filling a pet's water bowl, bottle or container.
- If you're not using water for drinking or preparing food, it does not need to be boiled for non-consumption uses such as bathing, laundry, irrigation and wastewater. Children should also be supervised while bathing to ensure they do not ingest water.
- If your tap water appears dirty either during and/or after the boil order, flush the lines by letting the water run until it clears. This usually takes several minutes.

To learn the status of the boil order, customers can contact Osawatomie City Hall at 913-755-2146 and select 9 for alerts, monitor the city's website at www.osawatomieks.org or the city's Facebook page.

Customers with additional questions or concerns during the weekend can contact the Osawatomie Police Department at 913-755-2101 and ask for dispatch, or call City Hall on Monday, March 20, during regular business hours.