

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Health Advisory for City of Libby MT0000274

1/16/2026 Water System Emergency Status

Our water system experienced catastrophic flooding and subsequent water treatment plant difficulties that required a boil water advisory on December 11, 2025. Since the onset of the emergency, numerous actions have taken place which allow the Boil Water Advisory to be downgraded to this Health Advisory. Due to the introduction of high turbidity water into the distribution system, contaminants could have been introduced into the distribution system. This is not an emergency and as our customers, you have a right to know what is happening, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

In an effort to protect public health, we are issuing this precautionary **Health Advisory** while we continue to flush the distribution system. Water system personnel are working diligently to complete the flushing process. Once flushing is complete, bacteriological samples will be taken to ensure the water served is still meeting the standards.

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 on EPA's website epa.gov/safewater.

What does this mean?

- *Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches*
- *The symptoms above are not only caused by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. What is being done?*
- A comprehensive directional flushing protocol will be implemented, and then bacteriological samples will be collected from the distribution system.
- Water system personnel are closely monitoring the situation and will update users if anything changes.
- For more information, please contact City Administrator Samuel Sikes (406) 293-1278 or the Health Department at (406) 283-2442.
- General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA on EPA's website epa.gov/safewater.

**Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice.*

This notice is being sent to you by: City of Libby
State Water System ID#: MT0000274

Contact: Samuel Sikes
Date and Method: E-mail, Newspaper, social media, website