

Attachment A

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTER DOES NOT MEET TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

The water served by this facility does not meet the treatment requirements specified in the California Surface Water Treatment Regulations. The source of water for this facility is shallow groundwater collected via an infiltration gallery. The State of California Department of Health Services has determined that our water supply is inadequately treated groundwater under the direct influence of surface water.

In order to meet the minimum treatment requirements established by the State, we are required to filter the water in addition to providing disinfection. However, we have not yet installed a filtration system. Disinfection treatment will kill most of the pathogens present, but is not effective on all pathogens that may be present in the water.

What should I do?

- X You do not need to boil your water. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. A home filter will not necessarily solve the problem, because not all home filters protect against parasites. Call NSF International at 1(800) NSF-8010 or the Water Quality Association at 1(800) 749-0234 for information on appropriate filters.
- X 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 from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency situation. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. We do not know of any illnesses caused by drinking this water. However, until improvements are made, there is an increased chance that disease-causing organisms could contaminate the water supply.

The State of California Department of Health Services (CDHS) sets drinking water standards and establishes minimum treatment requirements for surface water and has determined that the presence of microbial contaminants are a health concern at certain levels of exposure. If water is inadequately treated, microbiological contaminants in that water may cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possibly jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water, but also may be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. CDHS has set enforceable requirements for treating drinking water to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Treatment such as filtering and disinfecting the water removes or destroys microbiological contaminants. Drinking water which is treated to meet CDHS requirements is associated with little to none of this risk and should be considered safe.

Corrective Action

- St. Francis Retreat Center is installing filtration treatment. We expect that the filtration system will be operational by July 1, 2014.
- St. Francis Retreat Center is routinely monitoring for disinfectant levels and the presence of bacteria in the disinfected water. We continue to meet the standards for these measurements.

This notification of the public is being done in compliance with the California Health and Safety Code, the California Domestic Water quality and Monitoring Regulations, and the California Surface Water Treatment Regulations as a means of keeping the public informed.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact Ed DeGroot at 931-623-4234, or you may contact the Department of Health Services at (831) 655-6939.

This notice is provided by: St. Francis Retreat Center.

State Water System ID#: 3500537.

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