



News Release

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Drinking water health alerts now online

OLYMPIA — Information about recent drinking water health alerts can now be found online.

“People want and need to know when there’s a problem with their drinking water, as well as when the problem is solved,” said Clark Halvorson, director of the Office of Drinking Water.

“Our staff saw a way to provide timely information to Washington residents in those rare occasions when a system has to issue a health advisory. I’m excited that we’re able to deliver it on this new webpage and add another method for customers to keep track of advisories.”

The [Office of Drinking Water main page](#) has a link to a page containing [all alerts issued within the past two weeks](#). The page contains basic information about the alerts and general guidance on health precautions. The state health department is working on another feature that will show all active drinking water alerts in the state.

“Many health alerts are for smaller systems, and they often don’t make the headlines,” Halvorson said. “This will give customers of those water systems a place to turn for information and updates, and provides a backup to the required notification by system operators.”

The Office of Drinking Water comprehensively oversees more than 4,100 large water systems that are subject to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. These systems serve more than 6 million Washington residents. In addition, the office approves initial design of very small water systems. There are more than 13,000 of these systems which serve about 110,000 people in our state, roughly 2 percent of the population.

The [Department of Health website](#) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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