



News Release

For immediate release: October 21, 2014

(14-149)

Contacts: [Marqise Allen](#), Communications Office
[Kelly Stowe](#), Communication Office

360-236-4072

360-236-4022

Boil-water advisory issued for Mt. Baker Water Association in Whatcom Co.

OLYMPIA — A boil-water advisory is in effect for the Mount Baker Water Association in Whatcom County after routine water-quality tests detected *E. coli* bacteria.

The water system serves about 220 homes in a largely rural residential area in central Whatcom County. It generally covers the area around Kelly, Sand, Smith, and Nelson roads. Harmony Elementary School is not in the system's service area; the school is located within the service area, but it has its own well and water system.

The state Department of Health is working closely with the water system to try to find and eliminate the source of the contamination.

E. coli bacteria can cause gastrointestinal illness. To kill the bacteria, customers should boil tap water they'll use for drinking, brushing teeth, preparing food, making ice, and washing dishes. Water should be heated to a brisk boil for one minute and then allowed to cool before use.

The advisory will remain in effect until the water meets safe drinking water standards. Customers with questions about their water quality can call the association, 360-592-5137.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (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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