



**FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION**

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## **TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA NOTICE**

**SUBJECT: TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA CONTAMINATION IN YOUR WATER SUPPLY**

Sampling of your water well has confirmed the presence of **total coliform bacteria** in your water supply. The State of California, Department of Public Health (CDPH) sets drinking water standards and has determined that the presence of total coliform is a possible health concern.

Total coliform are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria in drinking water, however, generally is a result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes which distribute the water, and indicates that the water may be contaminated with organisms that can 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.

Drinking water that does not contain total coliform bacteria is usually not associated with a health risk from disease-causing bacteria and should be considered safe with respect to bacteriological contamination. It is recommended that you properly disinfect your water well according to the attached procedures and have your water resampled. Until a resample shows that total coliform bacteria is no longer present in your water supply, it is recommended that bottled water be used for drinking and cooking purposes.

For more information, please contact your family physician or the Fresno County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division at (559) 600-3357.