



PUBLIC NOTICE

BOIL WATER NOTICE & WATER QUALITY ADVISORY RUSSET BLUFF WATER SYSTEM

Effective May 7th, 2026

The Cariboo Regional District has issued a Boil Water Notice and a Water Quality Advisory to the Russet Bluff Water System users pursuant to a request of a Drinking Water Officer under Section 14 of the *Drinking Water Protection Act*. This Notice and Advisory remain in effect until further notice.

The **Boil Water Notice** is being issued as the Russet Bluff Water System transitions to the lower well, due to the upper aquifer no longer being sufficient to meet seasonal system demand. The lower well draws from the untreated groundwater source at risk of pathogens (GARP).

All users of the Russet Bluff Water System are asked to bring water to a rolling boil for a minimum of one minute before using water from the system for:

- Drinking (or use an alternate, safe source of water)
 - Cooking (if not boiled)
 - Brushing teeth
 - Washing fruits or vegetables to be eaten raw
 - Watering animals
- Also, please use hand sanitizer after washing hands.

A **Water Quality Advisory** has also been issued because the lower well has manganese concentrations exceeding the Health Canada maximum allowable concentrations. Interior Health has advised that boiling water from the system will increase its manganese concentration and is advising residents to secure an alternative water source to provide infants and young children with any water for consumption or food preparation.

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Phone 250-392-3351 or 1-800-665-1636 Suite D, 180 North 3rd Avenue, Williams Lake, BC V2G 2A4



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Water Quality Advisory — Elevated Manganese Testing has identified a high concentration of manganese (Mn) in the water system. While a small amount of manganese is essential for human health, Health Canada research has shown that elevated levels in drinking water can pose a health risk, particularly for infants and young children.

Infants and young children are the most vulnerable, as their bodies absorb more manganese and cannot regulate or eliminate it as readily as adults. The water from this system must not be used to prepare formula for bottle-fed infants — bottled water or another safe alternate source must be used instead. Please note that boiling water will not reduce manganese levels.

Breastfeeding and pregnant women are generally at lower risk, as manganese transfer to breast milk is limited. However, those with concerns are encouraged to use an alternate safe water source or consult a healthcare professional.

If you have further questions, please call Environmental Services at 1-800-665-1636 during regular office hours.

For more information about boil water advisories and service interruptions in the CRD and what to expect, visit cariboord.ca/water-notices-and-advisories. To receive updates on CRD water systems and other relevant information within the CRD, residents are reminded to subscribe to the latest news on our website at cariboord.ca/subscribe. Residents can also sign up to the Cariboo Chilcotin Emergency Notification System to be notified directly of emergency orders and alerts or utility service interruptions at cariboord.ca/EmergencyNotifications.

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