

Village of Fonda

8 E. Main Street, PO Box 447 Fonda, NY 12068

Telephone: +1 518.853.4335 Fax: +1 518.853.4555

Web: www.villageoffonda.ny.gov Email: villageclerk@villageoffonda.ny.gov



Press and Public Release

Date: July 16, 2024

Subject: Updates on Water Filtration Process and Boil Water Advisory

On Monday, July 15, 2024, the Mayor convened a tour and informational discussion with Montgomery County, Town of Mohawk Officials, the contracted Village engineering firm, and our water department team. During this tour, our engineer provided information regarding the filtration process so officials could better understand the whole nature of our system, including emergency response.

Changes in the reservoir's raw untreated water chemistry due to recent weather conditions have caused ongoing issues with turbidity, making managing the water treatment difficult. The Village was able to adjust to these conditions until an equipment and notification failure caused the boil water advisory to go into effect.

To address this issue, the Village is working with Engineers, Chemists, and the NYSDOH to adjust plant operations to manage the current raw water conditions.

The Village is taking a proactive approach to resolving the issue. We are currently undergoing a two-week pilot study, as required by NYSDOH, at the plant after changing the chemical used to remove particles that cause turbidity. The timeline for our work is subject to responses to our initiatives to correct the issues.

The boil water advisory applies to the Village of Fonda water customers and **does not** include well users or residents of the Village of Fultonville. The Villages of Fonda and Fultonville each operate their own water treatment and transmission systems.

Earlier in the week of July 8th, we began considering bottled water distribution if we still needed a resolution by mid-week. We contacted various organizations for assistance and had Wal-Mart, Crystal-Geyser, and Stewart's Shops respond. This is a proactive measure to support the community in mitigating their drinking water needs and provide some relief in boiling water for consumption.

We dispersed bottled water to approximately 125 customers on Saturday, July 13th. On Monday, July 15th, we contacted about 30 senior residents in our service area. This resulted in bottled water delivery to several homebound individuals unable to retrieve their own water. We had several people contact the Village to assist in retrieving bottled water for neighbors and others they were aware of and who were homebound. In addition, on July 15th, we dispersed water again to people who did not receive bottled water through our distribution efforts on Saturday.

Today, Tuesday, July 16th, we are again distributing bottled water at the Village Office from 10 AM to 2 PM and again in the parking lot at Fonda Park, 40 Park Street, Fonda, NY, from 3 PM to 6 PM.

Moving forward, the Village will update water customers and the media when conditions change, or we are aware of significant updates. The best source for these updates is our official website, www.villageoffonda.ny.gov, where you can click the “Public Notices” tab at the top of the page for information www.villageoffonda.ny.gov, where you can click the “Public Notices” tab for information. We also urge people to utilize the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Hyper-Reach program (<https://www.co.montgomery.ny.us/web/sites/departments/sheriff/hyper-reach.asp>) for critical updates.

If water users continue to boil the water as previously described, the water will be safe for consumption. The NY Department of Health is a good source for safety and health tips: <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/drinkingwaterprogram.htm>.

We are committed to continuing our work to improve the water system's current condition and diligently making improvements for future generations.

Feel free to share this release with community members to keep everyone informed and safe.