



June 8, 2018

## **Update: Water Quality Advisory**

The Black Mountain Irrigation District has issued a **Water Quality Advisory** as of June 8 2018, for all users on the water system. The order remains in effect until further notice. Please review our Press Release for information about the Water Quality Advisory.

### **What is a Water Quality Advisory?**

Water Quality Advisories are issued when turbidity levels in the distribution system are rated as "Fair" ranging from 1-5 NTU. A water quality advisory is the lowest advisory level and is used in situations where the public health threat posed by the water supply system is "modest".

### **Why has this advisory been issued?**

BMID crews have replaced a faulty valve at a reservoir outlet which led to the previous Boil Water Notice. Replacing the faulty valve required draining the reservoir and bypassing the Water Treatment Plant and utilizing untreated water directly from Mission Creek. Chlorination has continued uninterrupted throughout this process. As of June 8, 2018, the reservoir has been refilled with high-quality treated water, which will begin to work its way into the distribution system. BMID staff will undertake a flushing program to replace the lower quality water currently in the distribution system with high quality water from the Water Treatment Plant. Flushing the distribution system may take up to three weeks, after which it may be possible to remove all advisories.

### **Who is affected by this notice?**

This notice applies to all residents receiving water from the Black Mountain Irrigation District.

### **What should the public do?**

While health risks during a Water Quality Advisory are considered low, Interior Health recommends that children, the elderly, people with weakened immune systems, and anyone seeking additional protection drink boiled water or a safe alternative. For these at-risk populations, water intended for drinking, washing fruits or vegetables, making beverages or ice, or brushing teeth should be boiled for one minute.

Owners of all public facilities must post "Water Quality Advisory" at all sinks or drinking water fountains accessible to the public (alternatively, public fountains and taps may be turned off). As opportunities arise, they must also advise their clientele verbally of the "Water Quality Advisory."

### **How long will the Water Quality Advisory last?**

The Water Quality Advisory is in effect until further notice.

Water currently in the distribution system must be flushed and replaced by treated water from the Water Treatment Plant. BMID staff will undertake a district wide flushing program to end the advisory as quickly as possible. The necessary flushing and sampling may take up to three weeks to complete.

Interior Health has been consulted and is involved in this notification. The Black Mountain Irrigation District apologizes for any inconvenience this notification might cause our customers and appreciate your cooperation and patience during this time.

Kelowna residents unsure of who their water supplier is can get this information by going to [www.kjwc.org](http://www.kjwc.org) and using the “who is my water supplier” tool.

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