

QUONOCHONTAUG CENTRAL BEACH FIRE DISTRICT March 25, 2020

Dear QCBFD,

We last sampled our water mid March and just received the results.

As of March 16th our Well #1 continues to return total coliform+/e coli-(TC+/EC-). Well #2 and the distribution system, i.e. the water in our watermains which goes to your faucet, remains TC-/EC i.e. bacteria free.

Nonetheless we continue to remain on a RIDOH mandated Boil Water Advisory and I am not sure how long this will be.

Given the recent COVID-19 crisis there are more families sheltering in Quonnie so it might be of benefit to revisit the initial RIDOH Boil Water advisory. This should also be shared with any guests or renters whom might use your property. RIDOH makes it clear that it is the responsibility of the Public Water System, in this case Central Beach, and by extension EACH OF YOU, to notify guests or renters who utilize your property.

Again I wish to stress that E Coli has NEVER been isolated in our water distribution testing. Initially it was found in Well #2 which was immediately taken offline. Repeat samples of Well #2, while it was offline, did reveal E Coli. These cleared in October and well #2 was only replaced on line after the well redevelopment and samples returned TC-/EC-. Well #2 has remained free of bacteria since last October.

Here is the link for the BWA info

There is NO concern about COVID 19 being present in the water supply. This is a respiratory virus which cannot enter the water system and has been confirmed by RIDOH.

Now switching hats to speak as a physician; COVID 19 is a serious PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE!

In Italy, Spain, and now in NYC, over 50% of seriously ill patients with COVID are young males. We do not know why that is, perhaps a viral mutation, but it is a fact. Young people CAN and DO get SEVERE SYMPTOMS!

In fact in Italy, whose healthcare system is overwhelmed, elderly patients, over 60 years of age, are being rationed medical care, due to a lack of resources, and essentially being left to pass on. Some NYC Hospitals have already run out of ventilators.

This is an unprecedented rapidly spreading infectious pandemic and now a PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE which requires EVERYONE to assume responsibility and cooperate, participate and NOT act foolishly.

Please take what the authorities are saying VERY SERIOUSLY!

- 1. Practice social distancing
- 2. Wash your hands
- 3. DO NOT gather in groups greater than 5 people; better yet DO NOT gather!
- 4. If you are sick self isolate DO NOT GO OUT!
- 5. Better yet self isolate anyway and go out only for essentials.
- 6. Wash your hands
- 7. Practice social distancing
- 8. Wash your hands!

This especially needs to be shared with and directed to the younger folk.

The special notice Vincent Reppucci, MD QCBFD PW Chairperson

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