

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release: August 17, 2015

Contact: Mary Small, Public Information Officer

10:00AM

(509) 886-6410

## **Drinking Water Safety after a Power Outage**

Safe Drinking Water for Group B Water Systems and Private Wells

## **Purifying Drinking Water**

Power outages can lead to drinking water system contamination. Boil your drinking water until your water provider tells you the water is okay.

- Bring the water to a rolling boil for at least one full minute.
- Let the water cool before drinking.
- Add two drops of household bleach per gallon to maintain water quality while in storage.

{NOTE: Cloudy water should be filtered before boiling. Filter cloudy water using coffee filters, paper towels, cheesecloth or a cotton plug in a funnel.}

If you suspect the well water is unsafe because of chemicals, oils, poisonous substances, sewage or other contaminants, do not drink the water. Don't drink water that is dark colored, has an odor or contains solid materials.

Store-bought, factory-sealed bottled water is best.

If you are on a small public water system that has been impacted by the fires, Brian would like to hear from your water system operator.

More Well Water Safety information is also available from Brian. Call 509 886-6400.