



# Town of Philipsburg

September 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Contained within this letter is a notification that the Town of Philipsburg has exceeded the level for disinfection byproducts in our Water system. We are mandated by law to inform the public about these exceedances. An explanation by the Department of Environmental Quality is contained within this correspondence. As stated in this letter, this is NOT an emergency but a formal notification of the exceedances, wherein it is stated that is not NOT necessary for customers to boil their Water. Please reference important information about your drinking water.

If you have any questions, please call 406-859-3821. Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,



Mayor Daniel Reddish

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Town of Philipsburg Public Water System Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements**

The Philipsburg public water system utilizes Fred Burr Lake as one of its water sources. The Fred Burr Lake Treatment Facility does not provide filtration treatment. Public water systems that utilize a surface water source water are required to provide filtration and disinfection treatment. Filtration treatment is not required if filtration avoidance criteria are met. The Philipsburg public water system has met disinfection requirements but has failed to meet filtration avoidance criteria. This failure was caused by disinfection byproduct (Haloacetic Acid) exceedances.

On September 11, 2023, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality notified the town of Philipsburg that they were required to install filtration treatment or find a new source within 18 months to comply with surface water treatment rules. The town of Philipsburg has been unable to install filtration treatment within this timeframe.

Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation.

### **What should I do?**

- Disinfection treatment for the Fred Burr water source has met disinfection requirements. Boiling water is not recommended at this time.
  
- If you have specific health concerns, please seek advice about drinking water from your health care provider.

### **What does this mean?**

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. The installation of filtration treatment is required due to disinfection byproduct (Haloacetic Acid) exceedances.

### **Steps We Are Taking:**

The Town has switched the disinfectant process related to chlorine from gas to liquid. This will also include the installation of new computerized chlorine analyzers which will deliver greater accuracy in terms of dosing. The Town has also increased the percentage of spring water and decreased the percentage of lake water used in the blending process of the water that is delivered to customers. The Town will continue to pursue all possibilities related to the grant application process for funding of design for potential filtration obligations.

Town of Philipsburg - PO Box 339, Philipsburg MT 59858 - 406.859.3821

This notice is being sent to you by the town of Philipsburg. PWS ID#: MT0000304

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