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CONTACT: Leslie Kinnee
989-831-3669, kinnee@mmdhd.org
Mid-Michigan District Health Department
615 N. State St., Stanton, MI 48888-9702, www.mmdhd.org

In conjunction with

The City of Greenville
Michael Chesher
Public Services Director
616-754-5098

Health officials support Greenville's response to E. coli

Stanton~ Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) officials expressed their support in regards to the City of Greenville's response to this week's city-wide E coli water contamination.

"We would like the residents of Greenville to know that the Department of Public Services acted appropriately and in a timely fashion," said Kim Singh, Health Officer for the MMDHD. "As soon as the positive results were received the City immediately contacted and followed the recommendations of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)."

On Monday, August 20 six (6) routine water samples were collected at designated sights throughout the City of Greenville, one of which was the High School. The results were sent to the lab for testing, but were not expected for twenty-four hours.

Late in the afternoon on August 21 City officials received results from the samples collected on Monday. Results showed that one sample, collected from the High School, was positive for E. coli. At this time MDEQ was contacted and required the City of Greenville to re-sample the site and take two check samples. It is standard operating procedure to sample twice to confirm results before any public advisories are issued. They also required that "Do Not Drink" signs be posted at the High School. Both of these actions were immediately taken.

On Wednesday, August 22 results came in from the re-sample and check samples collected on Tuesday, all of which were positive for E. coli. MDEQ was notified and required a "Boil Water Advisory" for the entire city, rather than just the area from which the positive samples were taken as a precautionary measure.

"Since the 'Boil Water' advisory was issued, Greenville Department of Public Services staff have been involved in notifying the community, adding chlorine to the water system as a disinfectant, flushing the system, attempting to determine the source of the contamination, and doing follow up sampling," said Michael Chesher, Public Services Director for the City of Greenville.

Currently, the "Boil Water" advisory remains in effect for the entire city. Water, donated by Ice Mountain, will continue to be given out free of charge at the Greenville Community Center while supplies last.

For further information please contact the City of Greenville Public Services Department at 616-754-5098, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality at 616-356-0271, or Mid-Michigan District Health Department at 989-831-5237 or visit www.mmdhd.org.

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