



PUBLIC NOTICE



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Exceedences of Bacteriological Standard and Other Violations at USFS Big Bay

In July and September 2008, May and July 2009 and June, July and September 2010 the USFS Big Bay public water system exceeded the MCL for total coliform bacteria. The standard for coliform bacteria is that at small water systems like this one, no more than one sample may test positive for total coliform per month. In the months listed above, two or more samples tested positive for total coliform bacteria. All of these total coliform positive samples, however, tested negative for fecal coliform/*E. coli*. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning problems may exist. Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes).

As of May 2011, the water system at Big Bay Campground, PWS ID# MO5100028, has been posted on site at bulletin boards and all spigots as non-potable (not safe for drinking). The USFS has been working with MoDNR on this matter. Currently, handles to all water spigots have been removed and USFS is seeking quotes to cap all water lines and remove sinks in restrooms. A decision has not been made regarding when or if consumptive water will be restored at this site.

For more information you may contact Darla Rein at 417-683-4428, extension 133 or by mail at P.O. Box 188, Ava, MO 65608. Additionally you may contact DNR's Southwest Regional Office at 417-891-4300 or Public Drinking Water Branch at 573-751-5331.