

GORE PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY

Bob Warren
Mayor/Chairman

P.O. Box 329 8th & South Main
Gore, Oklahoma 74435-0329
918 489 2483 FAX 918 489 5885

Robin Henry
Vice-Mayor/Vice-Chairman

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Gore PWA Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. When there are high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

The following sample sites exceeded the turbidity maximum for the combined filter effluent of 1 NTU:

Sample Site	Monitoring Period	Number of Results Above Standard
TP001-Gore WTP	November 2022	1

The following sample sites exceeded the turbidity standard of 0.3 NTU for the combined filter effluent in more than 5% of samples:

Sample Site	Monitoring Period	Number of Results Above Standard
TP001-Gore WTP	November 2022	67%

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking the water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. *Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.* These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

CORRECTIVE ACTION - What happened? What is being done? When will the violation be resolved?

On February 23, 2023, Gore Public Works received notice from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality that for the month of November 2022, a percentage of turbidity levels over 0.3 units at our water plant exceeded the set standard. Also, in November 2022, one sample exceeded the turbidity maximum of 1 NTU. Extraordinarily heavy amounts of rainfall last May contributed to higher-than-normal levels of turbidity and a dramatic increase in organic materials in the raw water received from Lake Tenkiller which lasted for several months. To offset the higher turbidity levels during that time, we inspected and cleaned the filters at our facility multiple times a day by increasing our backwashing rate. We also monitored chlorine levels and adjusted them as needed. Bacterial testing results were always within the normal range. Turbidity levels have since returned to normal.

For more information, please contact Bob Warren, Mayor/Chairman at 918-489-2636 or c/o GPWA, P.O. Box 329, Gore, OK 74435. Erin Hatfield, Director of Communications with ODEQ may be contacted at 405-702-7199.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by **Gore Public Works Authority** PWSID#: **OK1021773** NOV No. **P-1021773-23-2**

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