



DRINKING WATER PROBLEM CORRECTED

PWS #4001000 Abington Rockland Joint Water Works

Customers of Abington/Rockland Joint Water Works (ARJWW) were notified on 5/16/2025 of a problem with our drinking water and were advised to boil water prior to consumption. We are pleased to report that the problem has been corrected and that it is **no longer necessary to boil water** prior to consumption. We apologize for any inconvenience and

thank you for your patience. ARJWW is required by law to provide a summary of the event. The details can be found below. Again, please note, the boil order has been lifted. It is no longer necessary to boil your water prior to use.

DETAILS:

Total Coliform bacteria were found in two routine finished water (after treatment) samples out of fifteen collected on 5/12/2025. One of six repeat samples collected on 5/14/2025 contained total coliform and *E. coli* bacteria. This constituted an *E. coli* MCL violation. We were notified by the laboratory of the *E. coli* positive sample and we notified the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Southeast Regional Office (MassDEP SERO) on 5/15/2025 as required. The news of the sample results lead to a boil water order because this bacteria can make people sick and are especially a concern for people with weakened immune systems:

**E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems*.*

This notice applied to customers in Abington & Rockland and those customers directly served by Abington Rockland Joint Water Works Public Water Supply (PWS) in Pembroke, Hanson, Hingham, and Whitman. This did not apply to all residents in Pembroke, Hanson, Hingham, and Whitman. We asked ARJWW customers to:

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.

WHAT WAS DONE:

Full rounds of system wide sampling, including raw water prior to treatment, finished water after treatment, and distribution system samples were collected on 5/16/2025 & 5/17/2025. All finished water samples after treatment and distribution system samples were ABSENT for coliform & ABSENT for *E. coli*. Following notification of these results, the MA DEP authorized the Boil Order to be lifted. Customers of Abington/Rockland Joint Water Works were encouraged to flush their residential & business plumbing, discard all ice, and to replace any water filters that were present in plumbing systems during the event.

ARJWW is in the process of conducting a full system Assessment to identify the potential cause of this event and an Emergency Report will be filed with MA DEP.

You may contact our staff and Superintendent Cameron at 781-878-0901 or 366 Centre Ave, Rockland, MA 02370 with any comments or questions about the event or this notice.

**This notice is being sent to you by Abington/Rockland Joint Water Works
PWS ID # 4001000**

Date distributed: 5/23/2025