



News Release

Glenn County Health Services / Public Health Office

Drinking Water Safety during the Drought

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Kevin Backus, Environmental Health Director – 934-6102

GLENN COUNTY, CA - Impacts from this historic drought are far-reaching and are beginning to be ever present in our local community. Local waterways and the ground are parched from several consecutive dry years. A few of our residents with private wells are experiencing their wells stop producing water. Water is essential to life, most importantly; we use water for drinking and sanitary purposes. As residents seek out alternative sources of water, it is important that they use safe sources for drinking water for their families.

Here are a few ways to ensure your alternative water source is safe and healthy for drinking:

- **Obtain drinking water from potable water sources only, such as:**
 - Commercial bottled water delivery
 - Bottled water filling stations at grocery stores
 - City of Orland water filling station (*For Glenn County residents with documented dry wells only. Contact City Hall at 865-1600 to setup an account to purchase water from this source.*)
 - Neighbors, friends, and family's potable-drinking water source
- **When dispensing water for drinking, NEVER use a garden hose.**
 - Garden hoses may contain lead, chemical, and bacteria that can be harmful if ingested.
 - Instead, use drinking water grade (potable) water hoses.
- **Use proper storage containers such as bottles specifically for water or food-grade storage.**
 - Soft drink bottles, if properly cleaned, are okay.
 - Milk or juice containers should never be used.
 - Avoid using containers that cannot be tightly sealed.
- **Properly clean and sanitize containers before use.**
 - Wash container with dish soap and water. Rinse completely.
 - Sanitize the container by adding a solution of 3/4 teaspoon household unscented chlorine bleach with 5.25% sodium hypochlorite in 1 quart water.
 - Place lid on container and shake well so that the solution touches all surfaces of the container.
 - Wait 30 seconds, and then pour the solution out.
 - Let the empty, sanitized container air-dry before use OR rinse empty container with clean, safe water prior to filling.

For more information, contact the Glenn County Environmental Health Department 934-6102 or 1-800-655-5418 or visit our website: www.countyofglenn.net and select Environmental Health Department or Disaster Preparedness. -End-