



# AWATERE WATER SCHEME EASTER RAIN EVENT - DRINKING WATER QUALITY

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## THE AWATERE WATER SCHEME

The Awatere Water Scheme is a domestic and stock water supply, and is currently subject to a Permanent Boil Water Notice. The water source is the Black Birch Stream catchment, and the water is collected through infiltration galleries under the stream bed.

Since mid-2012 the water has been partially treated at Blairich by MIOX dosing, which uses a small amount of chlorine to kill bacteria such as E. coli. In times of high turbidity this treatment becomes ineffective, and it is even more important to boil the water before consumption.

## WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

The significant rainfall event over Easter has caused the water source to become very dirty, increasing the turbidity and rendering the MIOX treatment ineffective. The high turbidity has also shut down the Seddon School UV Treatment Plant (UV plant).

## WHAT IS COUNCIL DOING?

Tankering Blenheim water to Seddon to top up the Seddon School UV tank (which supplies the public taps) until the UV plant is running again.

Monitoring turbidity, rainfall and other factors; and continuing with regular drinking water sampling.

Endeavouring to get the UV plant and the MIOX plant operational again as soon as possible.

Keeping the community updated via our website and CSOs, and the Awatere Community Centre.



## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Residents are advised that it is more important than usual to boil their drinking water for at least the next week.

All water used for drinking, preparation of food that will not be cooked, utensil cleaning, brushing of teeth, and ice-making should be **boiled for a minimum of 1 minute.**

Boiling the water will not remove the silt or the muddy taste. Filtering may remove the silt and taste, but this is dependant on the type of filter you have.

Fresh clean water is still available from the public taps at Seddon School.



## Where can I get more information?



For more information about the Awatere Water Scheme visit [www.marlborough.govt.nz/Services/Utilities/Water-Supplies/Awatere-Water-Supply.aspx](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/Services/Utilities/Water-Supplies/Awatere-Water-Supply.aspx) or contact us by email at [MDCAwatereWater@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:MDCAwatereWater@marlborough.govt.nz) or phone 03 520 7400 Marlborough District Council 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim PO Box 443, Blenheim 7240