Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety

A Brief on Drinking Water Advisories Surveillance

The Drinking Water Advisories application on the Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence

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CNPHI Drinking Water Advisories Application
The CNPHI Drinking Water Advisories Application

• Takes the alerting, analytical and information management capabilities of CNPHI and applies them to meet the needs of drinking water oversight agencies

• Fosters improved information sharing and coordination of response during drinking water incidents

• Provides tools which help drinking water oversight agencies manage information related to drinking water systems

• Provides analytical and reporting tools to describe key trends related to advisories and the drinking water systems and communities affected
2012 Overview – Water Quality Reasons for Boil Water Advisories

- Example -
the system allows us to better understand what is at the root of advisories
2012 Overview – Operational Reasons for Boil Water Advisories

- Power outage resulting in system pressure loss or reduced storage of treated water: 20.7%
- Treatment / distribution equipment failure or damage: 16.7%
- Start up of waterworks: 6.8%
- Treatment unable to cope with significant deterioration in source water quality: 1.9%
- Undetermined source of contamination: 6.3%
- Contamination during construction, repair or operation: 3.6%
- Damaged or inadequately maintained cistern or holding tank: 2.1%
- Damaged well components: 0.9%
- Does not meet minimum treatment/design requirements: 3.8%
- Does not meet monitoring requirements: 0.9%
- Inadequate disinfection residual in distribution system: 4.4%
- No certified or adequately trained operator as required: 0.4%
- Non-commissioned plant: 0.6%
- No or inadequate disinfection at the treatment plant: 1.5%
- Not applicable: 9.7%
- Planned system maintenance: 19.7%
Size of Communities Affected by Boil Water Advisories
Characterising the Needs of Small Community Water Supplies
Key points – CNPHI DWA and other CNPHI applications

• Adaptable and scalable to meet the needs of users over time

• Capabilities and tools evolve in direct collaborative partnership with federal-provincial-territorial users

• A secure, web based platform - respectful of jurisdictions

• Addresses gaps within and across jurisdictions

• Values and integrates legacy systems

• A national asset in support of enhanced surveillance and health protection
Contact

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