

PRESS RELEASE



June 10, 2012

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New Jersey American Water Issues Precautionary Boil Water Advisory in 6 Towns

Customers in Bedminster, Chester Township, Far Hills, Peapack-Gladstone, Pottersville, and Tewksbury should boil water until further notice

VOORHEES, N.J. (June 10, 2012) – New Jersey American Water has issued a precautionary boil water advisory for its customers in sections of Bedminster, Chester Township, Far Hills, Peapack-Gladstone, Pottersville, and Tewksbury. On Sunday morning, a broken water line shut down the company's Bedminster booster station, which maintains water pressure for approximately 1,400 customers whose water service was interrupted or who experienced low water pressure.

Please note that this is a standard procedure whenever water pressure is lost as a precaution. New Jersey American Water will provide information as to when the advisory is lifted.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection requires that the company issue the following advisory:

New Jersey American Water has determined that a potential or actual threat to the quality of water being provided to you currently exists. Therefore until further notice, bring tap water to a rolling boil for one minute and allow to cool before using for consumption; drinking, ice cubes, washing vegetables and fruit, and for brushing teeth. Please continue to boil your water until you are notified that the water quality is acceptable.

New Jersey American Water also recommends the following steps:

- Throw away uncooked food or beverages or ice cubes if made with tap water during the day of the advisory;
- Keep boiled water in the refrigerator for drinking;
- Rinse hand-washed dishes for a minute in diluted bleach (one tablespoon of household bleach per gallon of tap water) or clean your dishes in a dishwasher using the hot wash cycle and dry cycle.
- Do not swallow water while you are showering or bathing;
- Provide pets with boiled water after cooling;
- Do not use home filtering devices in place of boiling or using bottled water; most home water filters will not provide adequate protection from microorganisms;
- Use only boiled water to treat minor injuries.

Please be advised that the company is doing all it can to ensure your water is of the highest

NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER ISSUES BOIL WATER ADVISORY

quality. New Jersey American Water will notify customers immediately when the advisory is lifted.

New Jersey American Water is working around the clock to repair its Bedminster booster station and restore normal water service, which may take several days. In the meantime, the company has implemented temporary pumping measures to the impacted areas. While work continues, customers are asked to conserve water inside and outside of their homes.

For those without water, the company has established a water station at the Peapack Municipal Building at 1 School St. in Peapack where impacted customers can fill water jugs or receive bottled water. The water station will be in operation until all regular water pressure is restored to all customers in the effected areas.

For updates, customers can visit www.newjerseyamwater.com or www.facebook.com/newjerseyamericanwater.

New Jersey American Water, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 2.5 million people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in more than 30 states, as well as parts of Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.

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**BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

*1 School Street
Michael Seboria
Coordinator*

Post Office Box 218

*Peapack, NJ 07977-0218
908-234-2250
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**Bedminster Water Pump Station Malfunction
Situation Report #2
Peapack and Gladstone Office of Emergency Management
June 10, 2230 hours**

UPDATES IN BOLD

A. Current Synopsis

Sometime before 12:00 PM on June 10, 2012 the NJ American Water pump station in Bedminster Township experienced a broken pipe within the facility. This caused the pump station to flood resulting in the pump to shut off. This pumping facility feeds the two water towers located on Hamilton Farms, Bedminster Township and Sheep Hill Drive in Gladstone. Throughout the day the water levels in both towers has been dropping by 1 foot per hour. As of 3:15 PM the water levels were at a critical level.

NJ American Water is advising customers to conserve water so their emergency by pass pump can attempt to fill the towers. This situation affects customers in Peapack & Gladstone, Bedminster Township and Chester Township.

An internal NJ American Water Company conference call is scheduled for 4:30 PM to discuss how the situation is progressing.

The Water Company is in the process of mobilizing their 1,300 gallon water buffalo trailer in case a water distribution site is necessary. They will also distribute bottled water if needed.



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Peapack & Gladstone OEM, Bedminster Township OEM, Chester Township OEM, Far Hills Borough OEM and Somerset County OEM representatives met at the Peapack & Gladstone EOC and participated in a conference call with NJ American Water Company (NJAWC). NJAWC advised the following:

- **The Pottersville water tank (located at School House Lane, Bedminster) is empty.**
- **The Sheep Hill water tank (located at Sheep Hill Dr., Gladstone) is now at 74 feet. The normal low level is 78 feet.**
- **A boil water advisory is in affect for the customers that are affected. See attached spread sheet from NJAWC which the streets and municipalities that are affected. They are also advising customers to conserve water due to a potential decrease in pressure and volume. See attached notice.**
- **NJAWC is installing a high capacity pump (3,000 gpm) to by pass the pump station. This should assist in providing water north of the pump station. They estimate it will provide 50% of the pump stations capacity.**
- **NJAWC is sending out a message via their reverse 9-1-1 system to notify their customers of the boil water and water conservation advisory.**
- **This situation will last between 3-4 days while the pump station is repaired.**

A meeting will be held on Monday June 11, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the PG EOC between NJAWC, and the affected municipalities OEM representatives for updates.

B. Incidents

- **There have been no incidents involving water pressure or volume so far.**



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C. Notifications

The Peapack & Gladstone Office of Emergency Management has notified the following agencies and officials of the ongoing situation.

- Mayor William Horton, PG Borough
- Coordinator Michael Seboria, PG OEM
- Chief David Hill, PG Fire Department
- Captain Judy Fagan, PG EMS
- Coordinator Doug Vornlocker, Somerset County OEM (voice message left)
- Fire Coordinator, Doug Rue, Somerset County
- Health Officer, Lucy Forgione, Bernards Township contracting to PG
- Officer Ryan McNamee, Chester Township OEM

- **PG OEM has placed a message in the PG Borough web page to advise residents of the emergency.**
- **A reverse 9-1-1 message will be sent out via Somerset County Communications to PG residents.**
- **A reverse 9-1-1 message will be sent out via the Somerset Hills School District notification system.**
- **Bernards Township Health Department was notified of the new NJAWC advisory. They will notify the food service providers.**



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D. Resources Deployed/Requested

- The Police Department Variable Message Sign (VMS) has been deployed at the PG Bank on Main St. with a message advising residents with NJ American Water service to conserve water.
- The Fire Department will immediately call for water tenders in the event of a fire due to insufficient fire flow.
- **PGFD is working on preplanning tender fill sites for the Borough in the event of a fire.**
- **NJ American Water Company has set up a water distribution site at the Peapack & Gladstone Municipal Building tonight. It will be open until 11:00 PM. It will reopen tomorrow at 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM. Bottled water and a water buffalo for filling water containers is available.**

E. Weather Forecast

A stray thunderstorm is possible through the evening. Partly cloudy skies. Low 62F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph.

The next Sit-Rep will be issued after the 10:00 AM June 11, 2012 PG OEM meeting.

Peapack and Gladstone Office of Emergency Management
P.O. Box 218
Peapack, NJ 07977

908-234-0626 (Police 24 hr)
908-234-2250 ext 121 (EOC)

Distribution: PGFD, PGEMS, PGDPW, Mayor, PG Administrator, SC OEM, ROIC, BT Health Dept., Pfizer Security, Scott Para-NJAWC, Far Hills OEM, Bedminster OEM, Chester Twp. OEM, Somerset Hills School District Superintendent