TOWN OF FALMOUTH
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Board of Selectmen

Water Notification Protocol*

Adopted: October 22, 2012

- Routine water testing samples taken from points within the Town system are transmitted to Barnstable County Laboratory or Envirotech Laboratory for testing; such tests normally require 24 hours turnaround time.

- Upon receipt of sample results, if all are negative—routine sampling and processing continues.

- If one or more of the sample results test positive for E. coli, MassDEP, DPW Director, Town Manager and Board of Health agent receive notification by the Water Superintendent before the end of the business day. Town Manager notifies Board of Selectmen Chairman.
  - Repeat water sampling is conducted within 24 hours at same location(s) at which initial E. coli positive was identified as well as one upstream and one downstream location for each positive sample site. These repeat samples are then transmitted to the laboratory for analysis. Test results require 24 hours turnaround time.

- If results of repeat sampling confirm no positives, the Town returns to standard sampling protocol. Above agencies/individuals are notified.

- If results of repeat sampling confirm one or more samples positive for total coliform or E. coli, the Water Superintendent immediately notifies DEP and initiates the public notification process in accordance with regulatory requirements, including State Boil Water protocols. Additional Town actions will include:
  - Initiation of Falmouth’s Local Emergency Plan by the Emergency Management Coordinator (Fire Chief).
  - Initiation of reverse 911 public notification as soon as practical within 24 hours.
  - Mobilization of portable message boards to convey information.

- Sampling and testing continues in accordance with DEP regulations until there is a confirmation of no positive samples, with routine public notifications and updates.

*Note: This Protocol is governed by and pursuant to the Massachusetts DEP Drinking Water Regulation, 310 CMR 22. The expressed intent of the sampling, analysis, reporting and notification procedures as per this State Regulation is to protect the public health and avoid causing undue and inappropriate public alarm.