

Harris County  
**HCPHES**  
Public Health & Environmental Services

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September 26, 2005

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Rita Obey  
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**Boil Water Notice for Residents Served By Several Small Water Systems**

(See attached for the affected Small Water Systems)

Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services (HCPHES) has reason to believe that the quality of the drinking water for certain small water systems may be unsafe as a result of the power outage caused by Hurricane Rita.

Therefore, HCPHES advises residents who get their water from systems in the attachment **NOT** to drink the water until tests determine it is safe. HCPHES recommends residents use one of the following methods to treat the water for drinking, cooking or washing dishes.

**HCPHES Recommendations**

- Boil water before use; holding it at a rolling boil for at least two minutes before using it for drinking, cooking, and etc (the minutes start when the water begins to bubble). The flat taste of boiled water may be removed by shaking the water bottle or by pouring it from one container to another.
- Use bottled water, especially for mixing baby formula.
- Disinfect water by adding 8 drops (about 1/8 teaspoon – this would form a puddle about the size of a dime) of *plain unscented household bleach* per gallon of water, and then let it stand for 30 minutes before using. If the water is cloudy after 30 minutes, repeat the procedure. Use a container that has a cap or cover for disinfecting and storing water to be used for drinking. This will prevent contamination; or you may
- Treat water with chlorine tablets or iodine tablets. Read and follow the label instructions.

Water samples will be collected and monitored to determine when the water is safe again. When the public health threat has been removed, you will be notified.

**Residents should continue disinfecting the water until notified that their water is safe.**

[www.harriscountyhealth.com](http://www.harriscountyhealth.com)

5/18/2005

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***Small Water Systems Affected by the Boil Water Notice:***

<b><i>Name of Water System</i></b>	<b><i>Key Map</i></b>
Twin Oaks Mobile Home Park	339J
Forest Creek Apartments	457T
Oak Hill Estates	334M
Walraven	338M
Tall Cedars Mobile Home Park	379P
Urban Acres	415L
Forest Manor	339N
Heather Gate	379E
Green Gate Acres	291R
Highland Mobile Home Park	459H
Huffman Heights	339E
Meadow Lake Estates	417X
Reed Estates	415R
North Belt Forest Water System	375R
Highland Ridge	460G