

Dear Raspberry Falls Resident,

On November 23, 2010, Loudoun Water was informed by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) that the results of a six-month series of tests on Well PW-1 have led VDH to determine that the well's untreated water is Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water or GUDI. If a well is labeled GUDI, the degree of treatment required for the untreated water is the same as that required for water pulled from a surface water source like a river or lake. Therefore, once we were notified by VDH, PW-1 was immediately taken out of service.

In consultation with VDH, we have strict protocols in place which assure that all drinking water we supply to our customers is safe to drink. The PW-1 GUDI determination is the result of Loudoun Water working closely with the VDH and its regulatory process. VDH states in its letter of GUDI notification, "We acknowledge the actions Loudoun Water has taken at Raspberry Falls to protect public health prior to this determination and to provide water quality information requested by this office necessary to make this determination."

Because the well is located in a karst area, Loudoun Water has closely monitored the quality of the untreated water and worked closely with VDH on our testing regimen. We have consistently tested, and continue to regularly test, Raspberry Falls' untreated water. In fact, we voluntarily test the untreated water four times more often than what is required by VDH. We also test the untreated water after significant rain events when the risk of a well being determined GUDI is highest.

The PW-1 GUDI determination, however, does not mean that its treated drinking water is not safe. VDH's determination that PW-1 is GUDI refers only to the untreated well water, not the treated drinking water that is produced by Loudoun Water's treatment process and supplied to the residents. All treated water samples from Raspberry Falls taken during the six-month timeframe showed no bacteria. **The treated drinking water delivered to Raspberry Falls residents always has been, and continues to be, safe.** In its letter notifying Loudoun Water of its GUDI determination, VDH states, "Our records indicate there has never been a positive distribution system coliform sample since establishment of this public waterworks. In addition, [Loudoun Water] improved the disinfection process at Well PW-1 in the Fall of 2009 by ensuring that 4-log inactivation of viruses was achieved in accordance with the recently established Groundwater Rule."

A copy of this letter, the letter informing Loudoun Water of the GUDI determination, a list of Frequently Asked Questions, and the test results that led to the determination can be found on the Raspberry Falls page of our website, www.loudounwater.org. ([Click on the Community Systems link on our homepage, then on Raspberry Falls for details.](#))

GUDI determinations are specific to each well. Raspberry Falls' other current well, PW-2, is in service and is also being tested at four times the VDH requirement. Test results continue to confirm that the well is an acceptable ground water source and not GUDI. PW-2 will provide enough water for usage this winter.

Loudoun Water is continuing to move forward rapidly with planned improvements to the Raspberry Falls water system and is reviewing all of the options detailed in VDH's letter officially notifying Loudoun Water of the GUDI determination. We are planning to bring a new well currently under construction, Well F, on-line by spring 2011 to replace PW-1 and help meet elevated demands caused by irrigation.

We will continue to keep the residents informed about PW-2 and Well F on a consistent basis. Updates will be provided via email and through the Raspberry Falls page on our website, where you will find a valuable resource of information detailing Loudoun Water's efforts to ensure the community is continuing to receive safe drinking water.

Sincerely,

Dale Hammes

General Manager

Loudoun Water