

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS

Members of Council met with Provincial representatives on Monday, August 20, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the R. M. of Morris.

Present for this meeting was: Herm Martens, Leo Kornelsen, Denis Robert, Barry Fraese and Grant Macaulay, CAO and Don Harder, Public Works Foreman.

Also Present was: Tarras Jaremy, Steve Hancock of Manitoba Conservation

Shelley Buchan, Medical Officer of Health for Central Region.

The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the sample water testing that has been done by the R. M. of Morris and the results of that testing.

On approximately August 1, 2001, the R. M. of Morris there was water samples taken of 12 random property dugouts. Following that it was realized that the household itself must also be tested. Retesting was done on August 14, 2001 and those results indicated that some households did not have proper water quality levels. There were some households that had coliform and E.coli readings in their household water use. These readings created a concern with Provincial Officials and prompted this meeting.

It was indicated that for individuals wishing to test their water, the cost is \$8.00 for the first test each years and for any additional test the cost is \$30.00 to \$40.00.

It was stated that all of the testing must be done properly and consistently and it is best to take the samples from the same location in all houses and that is from the tap at the kitchen sink.


Shelley Buchan stated that for ground water, it is very difficult, if not impossible to treat a well. For surface water supplies, the water is far more vulnerable and as such, all surface water is considered as contaminated. Usually a Boil Water Advisory is done for urban centres only and is for drinking water only. On an individual basis, a boil Water Advisory is not issued but the individuals as notified of their situation and what action they need to take and that proper water must be made available to their household.

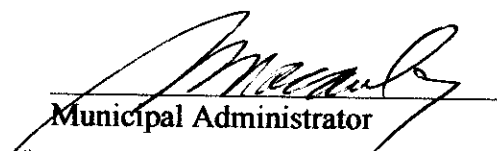
Mr. Marcel Kluk, of Manitoba Agriculture, in the Beausejour office was mentioned as being a possible person that may be available to assist with an individuals chlorination system, or what is wrong with their system or how to make these systems work to provide proper water to each household.

It was felt by Council that because of this significant percentage of the number of samples taken did not have proper water quality and that a program be entered into whereby all residents of the Municipality, that have their own system, be able to test their water supply. Entering into such a program would mean establishing many pick-up and drop-off locations in the Municipality. Every household would have to be notified of this program giving information of what they need to do. The household water supply should be tested at the kitchen tap, but the cistern used by the household should also be tested.

Mr. Jaremy indicated that their staff would be available for the follow-up testing in the Municipality. At this time, it was thought that the testing should be redone on Monday, August 27, 2001. For this retesting, the Province would pay for and take the samples to Winnipeg.

It was recommended that a general municipal program is initiated as soon as possible. The meeting was ended at approximately 3:30 p.m.

  
Reeve

  
Municipal Administrator