

[The following is in keeping with the Sarasota County's practice of reporting all water main breaks, regardless of size or impact.]



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Contact: Susan M. Walsh, 941-861-5504; cell 941-650-4791; swalsh@scgov.net

Project contact: Verne Hall, 941-650-2704; vehall@scgov.net

Jody Kirkman, 941-861-0550; cell 941-232-2153; jkirkman@scgov.net

Jim Oppy, 941-650-2229; joppy@scgov.net

Precautionary boil water advisory issued after water main break on Gateway Avenue

A precautionary boil water advisory has been issued after a water main break occurred Wednesday afternoon behind the property at 6550 Gateway Ave. in the Gulf Gate neighborhood of Sarasota. The break interrupted service to nine restaurants and 17 businesses, all of which are Sarasota County Utilities customers.

Sarasota County is notifying the affected businesses of the precautionary boil water advisory.

While the county has no reason to believe the drinking water was contaminated, Florida law requires that drinking water providers issue precautionary boil water advisories to customers affected by pressure losses in water mains.

While the advisory is in effect, the county advises affected customers to boil all tap water intended for drinking, preparation of food, washing of food utensils, making ice, brushing teeth or for first aid, making sure the water is brought to a rolling boil for one minute. Boiling the tap water disinfects it, destroying any harmful microorganisms. Bottled water can be used as an alternative to boiling the tap water.

Over the next few days, the county will collect a series of samples in the affected area and analyze them to ensure the drinking water wasn't contaminated by potentially harmful bacteria during the service interruption. Customers will be notified when the boil water advisory has been cancelled.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

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