



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein**

**July 25, 2012**

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### **NORTH COLLINS RESIDENTS ADVISED TO BOIL WATER BEFORE USING**

*Boil Water Notice Applies to Village of North Collins; Loss of Pressure Results in Advisory*

**ERIE COUNTY, NY**— Erie County Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein is advising residents and businesses in the Village of North Collins to **bring tap water to a rolling boil, boil for one minute, and cool before using, or use bottled water certified for sale by the New York State Department of Health.** Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and preparing food until further notice.

On July 25, 2012, the Village of North Collins water system lost pressure due to a break in the main transmission main for the Village which brings water from wells into storage tanks. When water mains lose pressure, the chance that untreated water and harmful microbes can enter the water system is increased.

“Harmful microbes in drinking water can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms and may pose a special health risk for infants, some elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems,” **said Burstein.** “But these symptoms are not just caused by microbes in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you should seek medical advice.”

The Village of North Collins has repaired the transmission main and is chlorinating and flushing the water system. Bacteriological samples were taken to ensure water quality prior to lifting the boil water notice; once acceptable bacteriological sample results are received the boil water order will be lifted. It is likely that residents and businesses will need to boil water for the next two days or until the problem is fixed. Residents will be informed when tests indicate no further need to boil water.

**For more information, contact: Village of North Collins office at 337-3106**

**Erie County Health Department at 716-961-6800**

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