



EMPIRE POLICE DEPARTMENT

30 East Park Avenue
P.O. Box 100
Empire, Colorado 80438



PRESS RELEASE

John W. Stein
Chief

March 27, 2022
EMPIRE, Colo. -

The Town's Water Treatment System is currently supplying water to approximately seventy percent (70 %) of the town. Town staff and supporting crews from our water contractor Ramey Environmental Compliance, Denver Water, Colorado Rural Water Association, and other volunteers from CoWARN have made substantial gain in providing water to residents and isolating potential leaks. While the leak detection continues, no leaks have been identified in the water treatment system. Water is being diverted through the system in a manner to direct flows to various lines identified to hold pressure. A small area suspected of losing pressure has been isolated for more detailed leak detection and remains shut off. The pressure loss could be a leak but may also be a valve that is not closing completely and therefore allowing water to drain from the line into other lines. The remaining lines without water need to be further pressurized and tested.

Crews will continue to close valves to pressurize lines in a systematic approach to detecting each line in the system. Melting snow from warmer temperatures, combined with the systematic closure of water lines, is allowing for this increase in water supply to the town. The system's storage tanks are still on divert as priority is being given to pressurizing lines to supply water to residents and isolate areas for leak detection.

Residents are reminded that as water quality tests have not detected any bacteria, a boil order remains in effect. The town will continue to have a boil order in effect for a short time after all water system returns to normal. Consequently, the town will continue to make available a water tanker for residents to fill containers. The tanker is parked at Theobald Park, 52 E. Park Ave. (HWY 40). The Town has limited 5-gallon Deep Rock water containers available but requests residents with other containers bring them to assist in equitable water availability being dispersed to all neighbors. Additional bottles of drinking water and gallon jugs are available in limited quantities to assist in conserving water drawn from the treatment system.

Last Friday, March 25th, staff and volunteers delivered two (2) cases of water to every housing unit in town. Tomorrow, Monday, March 28th, staff and volunteers will again deliver two (2) cases of water to every housing unit. Additional water is available for delivery or pickup for those requesting more.

This water emergency only affects the residents and businesses inside the Town of Empire. Water is available at Theobald Park and Town Hall daily 8 AM - 5 PM. Please do not call 911 unless you have an emergency. Non-emergent questions, comments, requests, please contact Chief John Stein via cell # 303-257-1422 or Town Hall at 303-569-2978.

John W. Stein, Chief of Police & Emergency Manager

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