

J.D. Gilbert, B.S., M.B.A.
County Administrator
& Public Information Officer
jgilbert@fordcounty.net

Shawn Fletcher, CPM
Assistant County Administrator
sfletcher@fordcounty.net



Ford County Government Center
100 Gunsmoke Street
Dodge City, Kansas 67801

Amy Stoecker
Executive Assistant
astoecker@fordcounty.net
620.227-4670

For Immediate Release

06/21/2019

Re: City of Ford

Ford County, Kansas – The City of Ford, Kansas has been directed to follow a “Do Not Drink Order” in response to high nitrate levels in the drinking water. The “Do Not Drink Order” was issued by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment 06/21/2019. The “Do Not Drink Order” is specifically related to the residents of the City of Ford.


The “Do Not Drink Order” remains in effect and the following is recommended:

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die.
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- Water should not be ingested or used for brushing teeth. Use bottled water.
- Dispose of ice cubes and do not use ice from an automatic icemaker.
- Do not use water to cook or prepare food.
- Supervision of children is necessary while bathing so that water is not ingested.
- The water may be used to flush toilets.

Points of Clarification for Media:

- 1) The City of Ford is not the City of Dodge City.
- 2) The City of Ford is not connected to the City of Dodge City water supply.
- 3) The City of Ford’s “Do Not Drink Order” does not apply to residents in any other city in Ford County.
- 4) The City of Ford is in Ford County, but it is not the entire county of Ford – this is an important distinction.
- 5) National Beef’s closure of operations is not related to the “Do Not Drink Order” in the City of Ford.
- 6) Ford County is NOT under a “Do Not Drink Order.”
- 7) The City of Ford IS under a “Do Not Drink Order.”

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County Administrator and Public Information Officer

The Mission of Ford County Government is to build on our heritage, prepare for the future and provide quality services to our citizens.