

Drinking Water & COVID-19

In the context of the many precautions that everyone is taking to avoid infection with the virus that causes COVID-19, it is only natural that some may be concerned about contracting the disease from drinking water. Health and sanitation experts have examined this question extensively over the last few months and have concluded that the possibility of infection from drinking water is very low to non-existent. Experts come to this conclusion primarily because the processes used to treat and distribute drinking water are specifically designed to remove viruses and other disease-causing organisms from drinking water.

Accordingly, during this current health emergency, the Red Lion Municipal Authority has continued to operate its water treatment plant and its water distribution system to the same high standards to supply you with the best drinking water possible that meets all regulatory requirements.

For more information about drinking water and COVID-19, please see the references below:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/index.html>

Quote: “There is no evidence showing anyone has gotten COVID-19 through drinking water, Recreational water, or wastewater. The risk of COVID-19 transmission through water is expected to be low.”

Quote: “The virus that causes COVID-19 has not been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.”

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>

Quote: “Based on current evidence, the risk to water supplies is low. Americans can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual. EPA also encourages the public to help keep household plumbing and our nation’s water infrastructure operating properly by only flushing toilet paper. Disinfecting wipes and other items should be disposed of in the trash, not the toilet.”

U.N. World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-covid-19>

Quote: WHO guidance on the safe management of drinking-water and sanitation services applies to the COVID-19 outbreak. Extra measures are not needed. Disinfection will facilitate more rapid die-off of the COVID-19 virus. The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies, and based on current evidence, the risk to water supplies is low.