

Ojai water service restored; contamination concerns remain

By From staff reports

Posted July 10, 2013 at 11:42 a.m., updated July 10, 2013 at 2:25 p.m.

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A water main break in Ojai has been fixed, but residents north of Grand Avenue are still being advised to boil tap water for at least one minute before drinking it.

The break occurred Monday night and was repaired at 6 p.m. Tuesday, with the system fully pressurized by 2:30 a.m. Wednesday. But the boil order will remain for about 48 more hours, water officials said.

About 800 customers of Golden State Water Co. are affected.

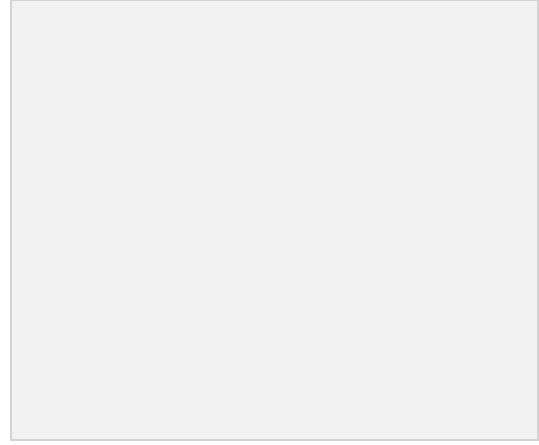
Kenneth J. Petersen, Golden State's coastal district manager, said the break occurred when crews were trying to connect a new pipeline as part of the Grand Avenue water main replacement project.

Petersen told the [Ojai City Council](#) on Tuesday that [home systems](#) can become contaminated when [water pressure](#) drops to zero. Water with higher concentrations of chlorine but still safe for drinking will be flushed through the system as a precaution, and water in the pipes will then be tested for bacteria. Those processes will take about 48 hours.

Petersen said Golden State crews were trying to determine what caused the rupture.

"We don't like to have these events, and we work not to have them," he said.

The water main break should have little effect on an Aug. 27 election on whether to levy a bond measure to have the Casitas [Municipal](#) Water District [buy](#) the Golden State Water franchise, Petersen said.



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"This is not a PR nightmare. This is part of what happens with [water systems](#)," he said.

For updated water information, residents may visit <http://www.gswater.com/ojai> or call 800-999-4033.

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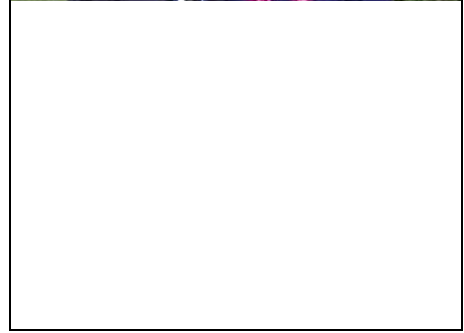


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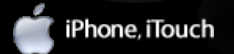
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