

Michael Dimock, Interim Director of Communications
Office:(404) 270-7126
Communications@EastPointCity.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2026

STATEMENT RELEASE

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Keisha Chapman

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Redmond Jones II

City of East Point Provides Update on Water Main Break Response and Boil Water Advisory

EAST POINT, Ga. — July 13, 2026 — The City of East Point has completed emergency repairs following a significant 12-inch water main break that was **discovered on Saturday, July 11, 2026, on Headland Drive between Plantation Drive and Graywall Street.** The incident required a multi-day emergency response involving the City's Water & Sewer Department, Public Safety personnel, utility partners, and emergency management staff.

Initial Response

Emergency crews responded immediately after the water main break was discovered on the morning of **July 11.** The break caused water service interruptions, low water pressure, and traffic impacts throughout portions of the city while crews worked to isolate the damaged water main and begin emergency repairs.

As repairs progressed, the city kept residents informed through regular updates regarding repair efforts, water distribution sites, road closures, and public safety information.

Residents were advised they could experience:

- Low water pressure
- Temporary loss of water service
- Minor water discoloration once service was restored

Boil Water Advisory Issued

Due to the significant loss of pressure within portions of the water distribution system, the City issued a **Boil Water Advisory** in accordance with Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) requirements.

The advisory was issued out of an abundance of caution because reduced system pressure created the potential for microbial contamination to enter the water distribution system.

City of East Point

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Residents were advised to use boiled tap water or bottled water for:

- Drinking
- Brushing teeth
- Preparing food and baby formula
- Washing fruits and vegetables
- Making ice
- Drinking water for pets

Residents should:

- Boil tap water for at least **one minute** before using it for drinking, cooking, making ice, preparing baby formula, brushing teeth, and washing fruits or vegetables.
- Use **commercially bottled water** as an alternative to boiled water.
- Avoid swallowing water while bathing or showering.
- Use boiled water or bottled water when washing dishes, preparing beverages, or handling food.
- Continue following the advisory until the city receives confirmation that water quality testing meets all requirements and the advisory has officially been lifted.

Residents should not:

- Do **not drink tap water** without boiling it first.
- Do **not use unboiled tap water** for ice, coffee makers, cooking, beverages, or brushing teeth.
- Do **not assume water is safe because it appears clear**—harmful contaminants may not be visible, smelled, or tasted.
- Do **not discontinue precautions until the City issues an official notice lifting the boil water advisory.**

Complex Repair Operations

The repair effort presented several unexpected challenges.

During excavation, crews had to coordinate closely with a gas utility working within the same sinkhole area to ensure the safety of all personnel on scene.

Later in the repair process, additional equipment was damaged, creating more complex repair conditions that extended the repair timeline. Throughout the incident, crews worked continuously through Saturday and overnight into Sunday to safely restore the water system while minimizing impacts to residents.

Repair Completed

The emergency water main repair was successfully completed at approximately **11:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 12, 2026.**



Immediately following completion of the repair, certified personnel collected water quality samples from multiple locations throughout the City's water distribution system for laboratory analysis.

Although the repair has been completed, **the Boil Water Advisory remains in effect until all required water quality testing has been completed and the results confirm that the water meets Environmental Protection Division (EPD) standards.**

Why Test Results Are Not Immediately Available

The city understands that many residents are asking why drinking water quality results are not available immediately after repairs are completed.

Protecting the safety of our community's drinking water remains our highest priority.

Following any Boil Water Advisory, water samples must be collected from multiple locations throughout the distribution system and tested for the presence of **E. coli** and other bacteria.

These samples require an incubation period during which they are monitored to determine whether bacteria are present. This critical step cannot be rushed without compromising the accuracy and reliability of the results.

The city utilizes a certified laboratory technician who performs an **18-hour testing method**, allowing reliable results to be obtained as quickly as possible while still meeting all state and federal regulatory requirements.

While waiting for laboratory results can be frustrating, these procedures are in place to ensure that East Point's drinking water is safe before any advisory is lifted.

Requirements Before the Advisory Can Be Lifted

In accordance with Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) regulations, the Boil Water Advisory will remain in effect until:

- All microbiological testing performed by a certified laboratory confirms negative results for total coliform bacteria.
- Water quality samples demonstrate a minimum chlorine residual of **0.2 mg/L** throughout the distribution system.
- Laboratory results have been submitted to and reviewed by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

Until all requirements have been satisfied and official approval has been received, residents should continue following the Boil Water Advisory.



Road Closure Remains in Effect

Although water service has been restored, **Headland Drive sustained significant damage**, including the formation of a sinkhole that has made the roadway unsafe.

For the safety of motorists and pedestrians, **Headland Drive will remain closed between Plantation Drive and Graywall Street until roadway restoration work has been completed.**

Residents may also experience temporary low water pressure as the water distribution system continues to stabilize.

Appreciation to the Community

The City of East Point extends its sincere appreciation to residents, businesses, neighboring jurisdictions, utility partners, emergency responders, and City employees for their patience, cooperation, and support throughout this emergency response.

Additional updates will be provided as laboratory testing progresses. The Boil Water Advisory will remain in effect until all required testing has been completed, reviewed, and officially approved by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

Media Contact

Office of Communications
City of East Point
communications@eastpointcity.org



For updates, please visit the City's official website or follow our verified social media channels.

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About The City of East Point

The City of East Point is approximately 13.8 miles with a population of over 35,000. Located southwest of Atlanta, East Point is conveniently located minutes away from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. This quaint urban community's prime location, numerous retail, and great restaurants make it an attractive place for a "live-work-play-shop-stay" environment because there's no point like East Point. For more information about the City of East Point visit www.eastpointcity.org. Also like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofeastpoint/ and follow us on twitter @cityofeastpoint, snapchat @cityofeastpoint, or instagram @cityofeastpoint.

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