



UNIVERSITY OF
RHODE ISLAND

May 8, 2008

TO: The University Community
FROM: J. Vernon Wyman, Assistant Vice President for Business Services
SUBJECT: Bottled Water

The State of Rhode Island, Office of Accounts and Control limits the purchase of bottled (or "spring") water using state funds to the following circumstances:

- 1) When the building or work site at which employees are permanently or temporarily assigned does not receive water via a well or pipeline.
- 2) When the quality of the water received at a building or work site is poor enough, such that any use or continued use of such water would affect the health and safety of the employees and/or the public. You should be able to document the unsafe quality of the water before purchasing bottled water.

Therefore, effective July 1, 2008 state appropriated funds will not be used to purchase bottled water unless one of the above circumstances can be demonstrated. Purchases of bottled water that meet one of the above criteria must be approved in advance by the Department of Safety & Risk Management.

The URI Department of Facilities Services confirms that the water provided to URI buildings meets all Federal EPA and Rhode Island Department of Health guidelines. The University owns and operates its own water system serving the Kingston Campus and adheres to strict regulatory requirements that govern all community water systems in Rhode Island. . The Facility Services Department monitors the water continuously and tests the water on weekly and annual cycles to insure that all standards are met. The department publishes an annual Water Quality Report that is available from the Utilities Department. The Kingston Water District serves some outer-lying Kingston properties and meets the same standards. The Narragansett Bay Campus and the Feinstein Providence Campus are served by United Water and the Providence Water System respectively. Similar Water Quality reports are available from the other named water systems. The W. Alton Jones Campus is served by on site wells that are tested regularly.

If you have any questions, please contact the Purchasing Department at x42171.

Thank you for your cooperation.