

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

LEVELS OF TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES ABOVE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS FOR LOWELL WATER DEPARTMENT

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets EPA's health standards. The results that we received for Total Trihalomethanes for the 7/1/2019 to 9/30/2019 monitoring period show that our system currently exceeds the standard, or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The MCL for Total Trihalomethanes is 80ug/L and the MCL for Haloacetic Acids is 60 ug/L. As of 9/30/2019, our local running annual average for Total Trihalomethanes is 88.2 ug/L.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

Some people who drink trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience some problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done?

Water that stays in the distribution system for extended periods of time create this problem. Trihalomethanes occur as chlorine breaks down in the distribution system. The first step in correcting this is to flush the lines in the area. This will begin immediately. Longer term corrective action is to remove dead ends in the water mains so that the water circulates in the distribution system. We anticipate beginning to resolve this problem within 7 days. For more information, please contact our water Superintendent, Dan Myers, at 219-696-5050.

This notice is being provided to you by the Lowell Water Department. PWSID#5245029.