

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Trenton Water Works Failed to Remediate the Disinfection Byproducts MCLs within One Year

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. TWW exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 60 parts per billion (ppb) for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) during the fourth quarter of 2017, and the first, second and third quarters of 2018. Our water system is required to take any action necessary to bring the water system into compliance with the applicable MCL within one-year from the initial exceedance. Our water system failed to remediate the HAA5 MCL by the one-year deadline of 12/8/18.

TWW exceeded the MCL of 80 ppb for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) during the first, third, and fourth quarters of 2018. Our water system is required to take any action necessary to bring the water system into compliance with the applicable MCL within one-year from the initial exceedance. Based on the fourth quarter 2018 MCL exceedance our water system will not comply with the requirement to remediate the TTHM MCL by the one-year deadline of 3/5/19.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. TTHM and HAA5 are formed when disinfectants (chlorine) react with natural organic matter in water.

Some people who drink water containing HAA5 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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

What is being done?

TWW continues to take actions to reduce the concentration of Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) and meet the MCL requirements. At the water filtration plant, TWW added a 2nd permanganate feed line, repaired a blocked carbon feed line, and is undergoing repair work of the chlorine contact basins which will result in better removal of organics (the source of DBPs). We are also regularly monitoring the turbidity (a measure of organic matter) of water throughout the plant and conducting more frequent sampling in the distribution system for DBPs. Throughout TWW's distribution system, all lines have been flushed and all storage tanks have been cleaned and disinfected. In addition, TWW is contracting an independent engineering consultant to provide a thorough evaluation for additional DBP reduction.

For more information, please contact customer service at 609-989-3055 or Trenton Water Works, 333 Cortland Street, PO Box 528, Trenton, NJ 08604-0528.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Trenton Water Works. State Water System ID#: NJ1111001.

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