**DRINKING WATER WARNING**

**DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR USE IT TO MAKE FORMULA, JUICE OR FOOD.**

**[System Name] has high levels of nitrate.**

 **[Required for Non-Communities]: Bottled water should be used for infants and is available at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Adults and children older than 6 months can drink the water.**

On [date] we received notice that the sample collected on [date] showed a nitrate concentration in the drinking water of [result]. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 mg/L. A confirmation sample [was **OR** will be]collected on [date]; results are pending. Regardless of the pending confirmation sample results, the average nitrate concentration level will exceed the nitrate MCL.

**IF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS SPOKEN BY A POPULATION OF 10% OR MORE WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY BASED ON US CENSUS DATA (REFER TO** [How to Determine if your Water System Requires a Secondary Language Statement](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pdf/secondary-language-directions.pdf) on our website at (<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pdf/secondary-language-directions.pdf>)) **REPEAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN ENGLISH AND THE APPLICABLE LANGUAGE(S):** “Contact [name of contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address] [**OPTIONAL:** or [email address]] for questions or to obtain a translated copy of this public notice.”

**What should I do? What does this mean?**

**• DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS** *\*Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.* ***\**** Blue babysyndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly,with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attentionimmediately.

Children under six months of age CANNOT consume water, juice, formula and food prepared with our tap water. Infants should consume bottled water or other water low in nitrates until further notice.

**• DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce nitrate levels. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.

• Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they cannot process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

**What is being done?**

A confirmation sample [was **OR** will be]collected on [date] and we expect to receive the result from the laboratory by [date].

We will:

1) Update this notice; and

2) Investigate our water system to determine potential cause(s) of the exceedance, which may include: **Options:**

* Maintaining our existing treatment and development of an appropriate maintenance plan;
* Investigating remedial options;
* Including installation of a nitrate removal treatment unit;
* Drilling a new well; and/or
* Connecting to a nearby public community water system.

We will inform you when this drinking water advisory is updated and/or removed. For more information, please contact [name of contact] of [system name] at [phone number] or [mailing address] [**OPTIONAL:** or [email address]].

\*Community Water Systems are highly recommended to include a map of the afflicted area, as in some cases only part of the system is being served with elevated levels of nitrate. The system should copy and paste a map below if it elects to include one\*

**OPTION**: Only a portion of our service area, specifically [AREA] is affected by this public notice. Please see find a map illustrating the affected area [attached/enclosed/below].

For more information on nitrate effects and exposure, please visit <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts204.pdf>. Information on our water system, including drinking water results, may be found on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Drinking Water Watch website available at <https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/>.

*\*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 [System Name]; PWSID: [PWSID]

Date distributed: [date]