IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

[WATER SYSTEM NAME] has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated the drinking water standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM from [MM/DD/YYYY to MM/DD/YYYY] (THESE DATES ARE THE MONITORING PERIOD). We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The standard for TTHM is 80 micrograms per liter (µg/L). It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months (a locational running annual average (LRAA)). The LRAA level(s) of TTHM at [# of sites with exceedances] of [total # of sites] sampling locations exceeded the standard:

**(ADD OR DELETE ROWS AS NECESSARY)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site** | **LRAA (µg/L)** | **Site** | **LRAA (µg/L)** | **Site** | **LRAA (µg/L)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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For more details see NJ Drinking Water Watch at: <https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/index.jsp> and enter the New Jersey public water system identification number (PWSID) at the bottom of this notice.

**What should I do?**

* There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
* 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 are four volatile organic chemicals all of which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water. This is commonly known as a disinfection by-product (DBP).

\**People who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the standard or 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?**

* (INCLUDE IF APPROPRIATE) We are working to minimize the formation of TTHM while ensuring we maintain an adequate level of disinfectant.
* We have/anticipate: (INCLUDE ALL AS APPLICABLE)
  + [Taken/will take] additional steps to change disinfectant type/levels (INCLUDE WHAT/HOW),
  + [Taken/will take] additional steps to minimize natural organic matter to reduce disinfectant needed (INCLUDE HOW),
  + [Increased/will increase] flushing of water mains to reduce water age and improve freshness,
  + [Increased/will increase] investigative sampling to determine effectiveness of our efforts,
  + [Obtained/will obtain] state approvals for new treatment processes (INCLUDE TYPE OF TREATMENT).
* (IF FUNDING OR OTHER ISSUES ARE DELAYING PROGRESS, LET CONSUMERS KNOW.)
* (IF THIS HAS BEEN ONGOING STATE HOW LONG THE VIOLATION HAS BEEN ONGOING FOR AND REPEAT NOTICES DATES) This has been ongoing for \_\_ [months/years]. You were previously notified of the TTHM MCL violation in public notice(s) issued on: [MM/DD/YYYY].
* We anticipate resolving the problem within [\_ \_] months.
* (INCLUDE IF APPROPRIATE) Although the LRAA for TTHM has exceeded the MCL, the results for the current quarter are [insert results] µg/L, which are below the MCL of 80 µg/L.

**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, please contact [WATER SYSTEM LICENSED OPERATOR OR GENERAL CONTACT] [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

*\*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 [WATER SYSTEM NAME]. PWSID# NJ [\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_]

Date distributed: [MM/DD/YYYY].