

## Stage 2 DBPR TTHM or HAA5 MCL Violation Notice

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

#### Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Violation at Chester Water Department

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. 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. Testing results from August 20, 2018 and November 19, 2018 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TTHM. The standard for TTHM is 0.080 mg/L. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. In this case from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, the level of TTHM averaged at one of our system's locations (381 Huntington Road) was 0.084 mg/L. From January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, the level of TTHM averaged at one of our system's locations (381 Huntington Road) was 0.092 mg/L.

#### 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 which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water.

*People who drink water containing trihalomethanes 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?

We are conducting more water quality monitoring to assess the source water quality and treatment processes and will use this information to evaluate the cause(s) of elevated levels and potential corrective actions, such as improvements in our treatment system. We began additional monitoring in August due to water quality concerns and will use that information in our evaluation. We anticipate resolving the problem within the coming months. We will work with the MassDEP throughout this process.

For more information, please contact Chester Water Commission at 413-354-7760 [phone number] or 15 Middlefield Rd. [mailing address]

*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

Chester Water Department FWSID# 1059000

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