

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 May 19, 2021 show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TTHM. The standard for TTHM is 80 µg/L. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. In this case from August 21, 2020 through May 19, 2021, the level of TTHM averaged at one of our system's locations (381 Huntington Road) was 88 µg/L. The TTHM range was 64 µg/L to 112 µg/L. Chester has exceeded Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR) MCL in previous quarters.

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

Some 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. Please see.

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tthm-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers> for a fact sheet.

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 is being done?

We are conducting the evaluations of our treatment process and distribution system as required by MassDEP. We will also conduct more water quality monitoring to assess the source water quality and treatment processes. We are using past and current to evaluate the cause(s) of elevated levels and potential corrective actions, such as improvements in our treatment system. We will work with the MassDEP throughout this process.

For more information, please contact Water Commissioner/Select Board at _413-354-7760 or 15 Middlefield Rd Chester MA 01011

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 PWSID# 1059000

Date distributed: July 6, 2021.