

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

CITY OF OSAWATOMIE

Has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

When disinfection (such as the use of chlorine) is used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants combine with organic and inorganic matter present in water to form compounds called disinfection byproducts (DBP). EPA sets standards for controlling the levels of DBP in drinking water, including Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM). Compliance is based on the four-quarter average of sample results for each location where TTHM samples are collected, called a locational running annual average (LRAA). The TTHM standard for any one LRAA is 80 ug/L. Results for a sample we collected on 12/7/2022 show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM. For 4Q2022, one of the LRAA where TTHM samples are collected was 81 ug/L.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. *However, 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 systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

What happened? What is being done?

We are required to maintain a certain disinfection ratio to ensure the water is safe to drink. This disinfection ratio is based on the temperature of the water and the pH of the river. Due to extreme cold temperatures, we are forced to feed a large amount of chlorine, which in turn creates disinfection byproducts such as trihalomethanes.

We are working to dial in our disinfectant dose, and hope to lower our disinfection byproducts within 6 months. We are at 58% preliminary design for a new water plant which uses Ozone as a primary disinfectant. When Ozone is employed as a primary disinfectant, a lower concentration of disinfection byproducts is produced.

For more information, please contact Name: BRET GLENDENING at Phone: 913-755-2146
Or by Mail: 439 MAIN ST, PO BOX 37, OSAWATOMIE, KS 66064

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 CITY OF OSAWATOMIE.

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