

February 20, 2019

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority (SCWSA) recently violated a drinking water standard. This incident was **not** an emergency, if it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within the first 24 hours after the violation. Although this is **not** an emergency, you, as our customers, have the right to know what happened, what you should do and what we are doing to correct this situation.

SCWSA is required to monitor your drinking water for the presence of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) on a quarterly basis. DBPs can form when a disinfectant (chlorine) reacts with natural organic matter in the water. Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) is a disinfection byproduct.

The DBP test results from the last four quarters show that our system exceeds the standards, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). The MCL for TTHM is calculated based on a locational running annual average (LRAA). The LRAA of TTHM at a sampling location about 3 miles from Ridge Spring is at 99 parts per billion (ppb). This exceeds the respective MCL for TTHM of 80 ppb.

TTHM forms over time based on pH, chlorine concentration, temperature and water age. The MCL was exceeded at a sample point on one of the far ends of our water system as is one of the furthest points from where SCWSA receives its water. Consequently, the water sampled from this point has a long residency time in our system which can lead to the formation of TTHM.

People who drink water containing TTHM more than the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous system and may have increased risk of getting cancer. With that said, there are no precautions you need to take. You do not need to boil your water or take any corrective action.

SCWSA's new water treatment facility is now in operation and serving some of our customers. This new treatment facility will afford us much more control of the parameters that affect DBPs in our water.

Please share this information with anyone you know that also drinks the water, especially those who may not have received this notice. If you have any questions, please contact me, Jason Fell (General Manager) at 864-445-9572. Thank you for your patience and understanding with this matter. This notice is being sent by the Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority (SCWSA); our SC Water System ID is 4120001.

Sincerely,



Jason R. Fell, P.E, MBA
Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority
General Manager