

Notice of Drinking Water NITRATE Violation

Mandatory Public Notification Language

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the **(2) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM NAME** water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for NITRATE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for NITRATE at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for NITRATE indicates a level of **(3) ANALYSIS RESULT** mg/L. This violation occurred **(4) TIME PERIOD OF VIOLATION**

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. If your child is under the age of six months, the child *must* be given an alternative water supply for any consumption. Boiling the affected water is **not** an effective treatment for nitrate removal.

Most consumers do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you. At this time, the health effects to fetuses of pregnant women is unclear. If you are pregnant, you may also choose to use an alternative source of water for drinking and cooking purposes.

Steps to Correct the Problem:

(5)

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.

Contact Information:

(6) PWS WATER REPRESENTATIVE NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

Public Notification Instructions

1. Fill in your Public Water System ID#.
2. Fill in the name of your water system.
3. Fill in the level of NITRATE that was detected in your water for the quarter, which was listed on the violation letter.
4. Fill in the time period of the violation. Usually this will be the quarter and year, like 'fourth quarter of 2008.'
5. Describe corrective actions your water system is taking and anticipated date of completion. Additionally, you must indicate specific actions which you are taking to provide the customers with alternate water source to infants and mothers. *For example:*
 - Bottled water is available at no cost to affected populations at (location).
 - We are drilling a new well to be completed by (anticipated date).
 - We are receiving technical assistance from TCEQ.
 - We are investigating the possibility of connecting to another system.
 - We plan to change the way we blend water from different sources.
 - We are installing a reverse osmosis (RO) unit or other treatment to lower the contaminant levels.
 - We have a RO unit or other treatment attached to a designated tap located at (location) for use by affected populations.You can add any information that is factual and does not change the intent of the notice.
6. Write in the name and phone number of your water system's contact person.

You must provide a name and phone number for a water system representative who can provide more information about this issue to your consumers. When appropriate, this should include a multilingual contact.
7. Fill out the Certification of Delivery form and submit it, along with a copy of the public notification, to TCEQ at:

Public Drinking Water Section
Public Notification Program, MC-155
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087