



City of Newark, New Jersey
Department of Water and Sewer Utilities



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Haloacetic Acid 5 (HAA5) MCL Violation at Newark 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 10/1/17 to 9/30/18 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for HAA5. The standard for HAA5 is 60 UG/l. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The level of HAA5 averaged at eight of our system's locations are as follows:

SM 11 = 74 UG/l; SM 12 = 77 UG/l; SM 19 = 76 UG/l; SM 5 = 62 UG/l; Stage 1 #204= 74 UG/l; Stage 1 #204= 74 UG/l; Stage 1 #204= 74 UG/l; Stage 1 #202= 74 UG/l; Stage 1 #203= 81 UG/l; Stage 1 #201= 73 UG/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. HAA5 are five haloacetic acid compounds. Which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water.

People who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer

What is being done?

The City is working to minimize the formation of HAA5 while ensuring we maintain an adequate level of disinfectant. We have taken additional steps to reduce natural organic matter and reduce disinfectant levels, and increased flushing of water lines to determine if our efforts have been effective. We anticipate resolving the problem within 3-6 months.

For more information, please contact **Mark Lavenberg** or **Jerry Notte** at **(973) 697-5458**

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.

To receive this notice in Portuguese, please contact us by e-mail at waterandsewer@ci.newark.nj.us or at (973)733-6303

This notice is being sent to you by the City of Newark, New Jersey NJPWS ID #NJPWS0714001.

Date Notification was distributed November 2, 2018.