

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Our water system recently violated drinking water standards. Although this was 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 the situation.

Pittsburg County RWD #5 has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Above Drinking Water Standards

Testing results we received for **October 2013** through **May 2015** show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes. The standard or MCL for total trihalomethanes is 0.80 mg/l. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 15 months. The average level of total trihalomethanes for these time periods is **0.082, 0.107, 0.112, 0.082, 0.109, 0.126, 0.130, 0.110, 0.137, 0.116, and 0.95.**

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant or are elderly. These people may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

What does this mean? This is not an emergency. 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 system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done?

Trihalomethanes (THM's) are chemical compounds formed when chlorine, which is used to kill disease producing organisms reacts with organic materials found naturally in the City of McAlester water source, Lake McAlester. The water we receive from the City of McAlester does not pass the minimum levels for trihalomethanes of 0.8 mg/l. There is nothing the District can do to reduce the levels of TTHM's in the water we receive. This problem will persist until the City resolves the problem at the water plant. They are under directions of DEQ to resolve the problem and are currently working to correct the problem. However we are required to report our exceedances to our customers, so you will be notified each time we exceed the maximum level.

For further information contact: Jim Henley, Manager, at 918-426-5555.

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 **Pittsburg County RWD #5**

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Signed: Jim Henley