

Cedar Key Water & Sewer District

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July 22, 2020

Dear Customer:

Attached is the quarterly notification regarding the District's failure to comply with the maximum levels for disinfectant byproducts during the second quarter of 2020. As stated in the notice, it is believed there may be certain health impacts associated with long-term consumption of water with elevated levels of disinfectant byproducts. Disinfectant byproducts are created when chlorine is added to water that contains organic material. The District's well water has high levels of organic material because rainwater that replenishes our shallow aquifer picks up organics from plant material on the ground.

Chlorine is the primary method of disinfection of drinking water in the U.S. The use of chlorine has made drinking water safe since its initial widespread use back in the early 1900s, after which water-borne illnesses such as cholera and typhoid virtually disappeared in the U.S. Given the widespread use of chlorine, many utilities around the state and country with organic-rich source water have problems meeting disinfectant byproduct standards.

In its continuing effort to lower disinfectant byproduct levels, the District has been testing a new treatment process that involves adding granulated activated carbon (GAC) filtration to our existing treatment process, along with a new way of chlorinating the water. Our tests have shown that the GAC filtration, if used in conjunction with the new way of chlorinating the water, does an excellent job of pulling the disinfectant byproducts out of the water along with the organics that create byproducts out in the distribution system. The results of these tests suggest that use of this treatment process should reduce our disinfectant byproduct levels to well below the maximum.

Based on these positive test results, the District has moved quickly to order the needed GAC filtration equipment. The equipment is due to arrive mid August, and should be installed and operational by the first of September. Nothing new will be added to the water, and any changes you see should be positive due to increased filtration at the water treatment plant. Chlorine will continue to be used as the primary disinfectant to keep the water safe, and you will continue to receive updates on our disinfectant byproduct levels after the new treatment process is initiated.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to email or give me a call.

John McPherson
General Manager
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352-317-7431

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
CEDAR KEY WTP DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS MONITORING PUBLIC NOTICE**

What happened?

Our water system did not meet the requirements of 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.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received from samples taken May 6, 2020, when averaged with quarterly results from the past year, show that our system exceeds the standards, or maximum contaminant levels (MCL), for Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs), which includes Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs). The standard for TTHMs is 80 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). Compliance is based on the locational running annual average (LRAA), which is the average of all quarterly results from the past year.

Contaminant & Date	Hodgson & Jernigan Ave.	Gulf Boulevard & Hodges Ave.
TTHMs LRAA following May 6, 2020 results	103.64	100.27

What should I do?

Some people who drink water containing TTHMs 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.

Any customers who are concerned about their exposure to DBPs may choose alternative sources of water for ingestion.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

What is being done?

We have tested and found a process using granulated activated carbon filtration to be effective in lowering our TTHM levels. The filtration equipment has been ordered and is due to be installed within the next few weeks. We will continue to monitor and report to you by public notice on future testing results.

For more information, please contact John McPherson, General Manager, at 352-543-5285 or 352-317-7431.

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 CEDAR KEY WTP
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